FBIS DAILY REPORT

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IDB PRESIDENT CLOSE GOVERNORS ASSEMBLY IN SPAIN

FL081445 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1403 GMT 8 Apr 81

[By special correspondent Amado Espitia]

[Text] Madrid, Spain, 8 Apr (NOTIMEX)--Despite problems and tensions, the people of Latin America can realize their highest dreams of living in harmony, prosperity and freedom at a time of uncertainty and concern over the world situation. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) President Antonio Ortiz Mena said this in his closing remarks at the 22d IDB governors assembly. The work which the IDB is undertaking this decade and problems relative to energy and food were examined at the meeting.

Ortiz Mena said the Latin American countries are determined to resolutely mobilize their resources through an internal and regional effort, and that they are certain they will have the understanding and support of the industrialized nations on that enterprise. He also referred to the international economic situation, saying that the recession of economic activity is accompanied by high unemployment, high inflation rates and monetary and exchange instability. To this, he said, one must add the balance of payments deficits which represent the principal elements of the crisis that is affecting a large majority of industrialized and developing countries.

On another matter, he said that given the current close international economic interdependence and limited adaptation capacity of the developing countries, primarily the non-oil-exporting ones, there is a serious threat of a business recession with ominous consequences for the economic and social well-being of the Latin American people. However, he emphasized, this same situation gives the option of concerted action within the framework of international economic cooperation, not only to prevent the crisis but also to permit the reestablishment of world growth trends and to make the structural changes required by the new political, social and economic conditions in the world.

Lastly, he stressed that the challenges that must be faced in this decade--international trade and finance--prove the human desire and political will to live in peace and prosperity.

RIO DE JANEIRO PROTOCOL COMMISSION ENDS TASK

PY090331 Paris AFP in Spanish 2115 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Brasilia, 8 Apr (AFP)--The Brazilian Foreign Ministry today disclosed that the observers' commission of the Rio de Janeiro peace protocol guarantor countries has ended its activities started on 2 February 1981.

The Foreign Ministry pointed out that in a meeting held in this capital the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States analyzed the final report drawn up by the observers' commission in Machala on 31 March.

In Machala the observers' commission confirmed that the Ecuadorean and Peruvian governments had finished withdrawing and demobilizing their respective troops and that they had complied with the previously agreed cease fire and separation of troops.

The Brazilian Foreign Ministry communique points out that the guarantor countries will supply all that information to the Peruvian and Ecuadorean Governments as well as to the president of the permanent council.

The guarantor countries thanked the Peruvian and Ecuadorean Governments and their respective armed forces for their cooperation and support regarding the initiatives taking aimed at overcoming the incident.

FORMER MINISTER APPOINTED TO ADVISORY COMMISSION

PY100301 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0125 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 9 Apr (TELAM)--Former Interior Minister Big Gen Albano Eduardo Harguindeguy is a member of President Roberto Eduardo Viola's team of advisers.

This information was obtained from official sources which stated that in this way the government will take advantage of General Harguindeguy's experience regarding contact with the representative sectors in the country.

It must be recalled that President Viola recently stated that precisely that type of dialogue will not only be maintained but that it will be intensified.

AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA COMMENTS ON RELATIONS

PY082100 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 8 Apr 81 p 11

[Text] (NA)--Venezuela is proposing that Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Venezuela internationally act as spokesmen for Latin American interests and take "common global action", Argentine ambassador to Venezuela, Juan Aguirre Lanari said yesterday.

Lanari, who arrived here yesterday after being called back by the Foreign Ministry warned, however, that Venezuela was not thinking of forming a Latin America bloc. He did not deny the possibility that Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins may soon meet with President Robert Viola.

"Rather than speaking of blocs," said the diplomat, it should be noted that Foreign Minister (Jose Alberto) Zambrano Velazco's trip to Argentina shows a significantly altered attitude on the favourable course of relations between Venezuela and Argentina."

He added that Venezuela's attitude toward Argentina was made clear during the general debate of the Organization of American States (OAS) last November, where Venezuela "was principally behind the consensus agreement" reached in the debate over information of human rights violations in Argentina.

Aguirre Lanari said that Zambrano Velazco confirmed the "common global actions" plan during his recent visit with Argentine authorities. Under the plan, according to Aguirre Lanari, the four largest countries in Latin America would act as spokesman "without any leadership or hegemonic pretensions."

According to the diplomat, Herrera Campins has said the assumption of Viola as president "indicates a possible opening in the political system, and that the president looked favourably upon Viola."

CNEA CANCELS CONTRACT FOR URANIUM PLANT

PY092013 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1045 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Apr (TELAM)--Vice Adm Carlos Castro Madero, the chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA), reported here today that the CNEA has cancelled the contract signed with a joint consortium for the construction and exploitation of a uranium concentrate plant in Sierra Pintada, located in Mendoza Province. He noted that the CNEA must now start to draft a new strategy for the exploitation of this uranium deposit.

Castro Madero thus confirmed what the provincial economy minister, Horacio Dobal, had already reported during a press conference he held on Tuesday in Mendoza during which he reported that the CNEA was planning to cancel these contracts.

Castro Madero made this statement last night at the Jorge Newbery Metropolitan Airport upon his arrival from Cordoba where he visited the Embalse plant and inspected the uranium dioxide production which is processed at an industrial complex there.

Among other things the CNEA chairman told journalists the the CNEA budget is not enough. He said: "Since we need a larger budget, we will have to obtain domestic credits."

He said that no one should be surprised that CNEA is requesting these credits, since approximately 70 percent of the budget approved by the executive branch must be obtained either through domestic or foreign credits. In compliance with this authorization, CNEA will seek credits in accordance with the regulations established by the Argentine Central Bank.

Regarding his visit to the Embalse plant, Castro Madero said that he is impressed with what he saw and he reported that the work will probably end ahead of schedule, that is before 1982.

About his visit to the Cordoba industrial complex which is involved in processing uranium dioxide, he noted that since the work is being carried out at a good pace, it is very likely that Argentina will have uranium dioxide by next February.

Castro Madero also confirmed that the CNEA had cancelled the contract signed with a consortium--three Argentine enterprises and a French one--for the exploitation of the Sierra Pintada deposit because although the contract has been in force since October 1980, the consortium has been unable to meet its commitments for several reasons.

He did not discard the possibility that these works may be undertaken by the Mendoza nuclear enterprise. He noted, however, that if this were the case, the budget resources for mining exploitation and construction of the plant must come from national contributions.

He noted: The contract that was cancelled established that CNEA would pay only when production of uranium had started. That is, CNEA paid for the uranium that was produced. Therefore, any new possibilities to exploit this deposit must be carefully studied.

CHILEANS REPORTEDLY ARRESTED IN RIO GALLEGOS

PY091610 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1518 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Rio Gallegos, 9 Apr (TELAM)--Personnel of the border police have carried out an operation arresting several Chilean citizens and seizing maps and photographs of this city, a list of military officials and other compromising documents.

Despite the secrecy of this event, it has been learned that the investigation started as the result of the arrest of a naturalized Argentine of Chilean origin in Chimen Aike--20 kilometers from this city--on the road leading to the Monte Aymond border post when he was traveling from Rio Gallegos to Punta Arenas on a bus of the Pinguino company.

As a result of the seized documents and the declarations made by the arrested men, several operations were carried out and six other persons have been arrested.

It has not yet been established if the activities of the most important person arrested are part of the espionage or if this is the case of a single subversive agent. According to initial reports, this is probably a very important operation.

Chilean Identified

PY092201 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Excerpt] The person who was arrested on Sunday in Rio Gallegos when he was leaving for Punta Arenas was identified as (Manuel Eduardo Flores Villagran), naturalized Argentine of Chilean orgin.

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT: NO NEW POLICY CHANGES

PY091811 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1507 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 9 Apr (NA)--Julio Gomez, president of the Central Bank, today categorically ruled out the possibility of a new peso devaluation. He stated that "to talk about a devaluation at this time would be like talking about a disaster which must not occur" and that "there is no reason" for a devaluation.

Gomez also made it clear that "I do not believe it necessary to lower the minimum cash reserves of the banks, because "we will have a large dollar influx" which will guarantee the fluidity of the peso market and facilitate "a gradual return to normal interest rates."

The Central Bank president made these remarks among his first public statements made after he took up his post. He spoke with NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS at Ezeiza Airport upon returning from Madrid, where he participated in the Inter-American Development Bank assembly.

When asked if "the continuity of the monetary policy applied by the outgoing team was asserted" in Madrid, Gomez replied that "in fact, the plan itself explains this. The original main budget lines have been maintained; a single exchange rate is being maintained, which is a great achievement; a free money exchange market is being maintained; a free interest rate market is being maintained."

He added: "This means that the plan continues without any changes whatever within the general guidelines set in 1976."

BRIEFS

IDB LOAN FOR IRRIGATION--Madrid (ANSA)--IDB President Antonio Ortiz Mena and Argentine Economy and Finance Minister Lorenzo Sigaut yesterday signed an accord by which the IDB will give Argentina a $48 million loan to finance the improvement of irrigation systems in the dry areas of the country. [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 5 Apr 81 p 14 PY]

FOREIGN DEBT INCREASES--According to the report released yesterday by the Central Bank, Argentina's balance of payments showed a $2,514,500,000 deficit in 1980. The foreign debt grew 42.7 percent during the same period thus amounting to $27.162 billion. [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Mar 81 p 10 PY]

CORN CROP--Buenos Aires, 7 Apr (TELAM)--The Agriculture and Livestock Ministry disclosed that according to the preliminary estimates, corn production for the 1980-1981 period will reach approximately 13.15 million tons. This would mean a 105.5 percent increase over last year's harvest, 68.8 percent higher than the average production during the past 5 years and 60.3 percent higher than the production during the last decade. It is believed that this increase is due to the exceptional climate throughout the production cycle and to the increase of the sown area by 20 percent. Buenos Aires Province is the most productive area with 6 million tons (2.52 million tons last harvest), followed by Cordoba Province with a production of 2.8 million tons (1.22 million tons last year). This will be a record since it surpasses the 1970-1971 harvest by 9.93 million. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0833 GMT 7 Apr 81 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER ON ANDEAN PACT, CONSTITUTION

PY100222 Paris AFP in Spanish 2146 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] La Paz, 9 Apr (AFP)--Bolivian Foreign Minister Mario Rolon Anaya stated here today that Bolivia's participation in the Cartagena accord will be restricted to the technical and economic sectors. It will not participate in the political sector.

During a press conference, the minister stressed that nonintervention and the self-determination of nations are the basic principles of Bolivian participation in any type of integration project.

It is not a question of a return to the Andean Pact, but of a reactivation of Bolivian participation in the technical and economic organizations, such as the Cartagena accord commission, the most important organization of the subregional institution, he indicated.

It is also not a question of Bolivia changing its position, he said, because we never left the pact.

Referring to other topics, he indicated that Bolivia does not want imported democracy. He would prefer democracy to have a solid (?basis) on the traditions and idiosyncracies of the Bolivian people.

He added that the country has already suffered frustrations with voting based on foreign interests and this is why we are going to nationalize the constitution. He noted that Bolivia's institutions are based on a state of law since the government has enforced the 1967 constitution.

Finally, he released a circular that has been sent to all Bolivian embassies that explains the government's position regarding the Andean Pact.

BANZER SUAREZ MEETS ARMED FORCES HIGH COMMAND

PY100239 Paris AFP in Spanish 0202 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] La Paz, 9 Apr (AFP)--Former Bolivian President Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez has met with the armed forces high command, it was reported here today. The issues discussed were not disclosed.

Banzer, who resides in the city of Santa Cruz, located 1,000 km east of La Paz, came to the capital to meet with government officials, the Santa Cruz newspaper EL MUNDO reported.

It has also been reported that military intelligence officials have been holding intensive meetings to discuss the activities which former President Lidia Gueiler, who was overthrown by Gen Luis Garcia Meza on 17 July 1980, has been carrying out in Lima, Peru.

CURFEW TO BE LIFTED 2 DAYS DURING HOLY WEEK

PY100148 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2243 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] La Paz, 9 Apr (TELAM)--The curfew that has been in force throughout the country since 17 July 1980 will be lifted temporarily because of the holy week holiday. The information, released by the Interior Ministry, also indicates that the measure, which is enforced every day from 2100 to 0600 and which prohibits any type of movement by pedestrians and vehicles, will be lifted on Easter Thursday and Holy Saturday. Movement will be unrestricted on these 2 days throughout the country.

NEW ANTARCTIC LANDING STRIP, STATION SET UP

PY091835 Paris AFP in Spanish 1426 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 9 Apr (AFP)--It was reported here today that the Chilean Army and Air Force have set up a new station and air strip in the Antarctic territory which Chile claims as its own.

The landing strip is 4,000 meters long and 60 meters wide. It is located 2,600 meters above sea level on a snowy plateau of the Graham Mountain Range, 65° south latitude and 62° west longitude. According to the official report, this station marks the deepest penetration toward the southern pole ever achieved by a Chilean expedition.

It was also reported that the air strip will be able to receive ski planes whenever the base, called Chiloe, is reactivated for the summer months of every year. It was pointed out that currently Chile has approximately 12 bases and temporary or permanent stations in the Antarctic, all of which are in the area of the Palmer Peninsula.

TWO ARGENTINE CITIZENS SENTENCED FOR SPYING

PY091355 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1940 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Rio Gallegos, 8 Apr (TELAM)--The Argentine consul in Punta Arenas, Chile, Guillermo Luchetti, has confirmed that Argentine citizens Hugo Calleri and Ivo Chininger, charged with spying, have been sentenced to 3 years and 1 day of imprisonment. Talking to TELAM by telephone, Luchetti stated that tomorrow he plans to visit his two fellow countrymen, who were notified today of the ruling confirmed by the Chilean Air Force judge.

Alleri and Chininger can now appeal the Chilean military court or accept the sentence and request a pardon. The two were arrested in Punta Arenas in July last year.

Luchetti also said that with the exception of Juan Manuelaides, who is ill, the other Argentines arrested in Chile are in good health. These persons are Gelian Jorge Parry and Luis Villamayor, all of them accused of spying.

VICARIATE OF SOLIDARITY TO DISMISS 200 PERSONS

PY081321 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] The rumored wave of dismissals at the Vicariate of Solidarity--the controversial and highly politicized organization supported by the Santiago Archbishopric--has been confirmed.

Mr Juan Castro has made a public statement acknowledging that the Vicariate of Solidarity is undergoing internal evaluation and that it is going to implement a number of changes.

According to reports, approximately 200 officials will be dismissed, beginning with 50 in the first stage. The reorganization of the so-called Vicariate of Solidarity is being studied at the San Francisco Javier retreat and it is presumed that it had been agreed upon during a recent meeting between Chilean bishops and Cardinal Raul Silva Henriquez.

As is well known, the Vicariate of Solidarity has been involved in a number of political incidents orchestrated by Marxist leaders who have been seeking shelter within this organization for a number of years in order to carry out, under its protection, their onslaughts on the government and the legal system in force.

CAPTURED M-19 LEADERS INTERVIEWED ON TELEVISION

PA100153 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Bogota--In view of technical difficulties which made it impossible to hear the statements of the leaders of the outlawed 19 April Movement, M-19, on a television interview, this radio station was able to obtain the transcripts of the guerrillas' statements.

Rosemberg Pabon Pabon, alias Pacho, and known as Commander Uno, said he joined the M-19 first as member of the communist youths from whom he received instructions to go underground as a special member and therefore, he received military training as a member of the Communist Party.

Commander Uno headed the occupation of the Dominican Embassy in Bogota with full authority. He later travelled to Cuba for guerrilla training. He admitted having received good treatment from the army during his arrest.

Angela Maria Navarro Wolf, sister of M-19 leader Antonio Jose Navarro Wolf, presently under custody, spoke of her trip to Cuba and on the tactical, political and revolutionary training received in that country. Prior to her trip to Cuba, she collaborated with the M-19, serving as keeper of subversive material and propaganda. She had a G-3 rifle and camping equipment in her possession when arrested. She admitted having been well treated by the army during her arrest.

Carlos Toledo Plata, member of the high command and political head of the M-19 organization, said he had received guerrilla training in Cuba. He criticized the attitude of Pabon Pabon for leaving his group during combat with the army forces and requesting political asylum in the Ecuadorean town of San Lorenzo. He believed he has received a humanitarian treatment during his imprisonment. He had an M-16 rifle and two grenades in his possession at the time of his arrest.

Rafael Arteaga Giraldo, ranking officer of the M-19, referred to his participation in the seizure of army weapons in a northern canton and admitted having rented the house under which the tunnel was built and having participated in its construction. He travelled to Cuba with a forged passport on 31 December 1978 where he remained for nearly 2 years, serving as mathematics teacher in a Havana high school. He said his wife, Esther Moron de Arteaga, is presently in Caracas. He also admitted having been well treated in prison. He was carrying a G-3 rifle with 120 bullets, which were handed to him on arrival in Colombian territory.

The interview also shows aspects of the field medical services offered the prisoners and a statement from Rosemberg Pabon on the good food and treatment received.

M-19 BATEMAN GROUP REPORTEDLY CLASHING WITH ARMY

PA091545 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Mocoa, Colombia--Unofficial sources report that a column of the outlawed 19 April Movement, M-19, is engaged in heavy fighting with army forces near Puerto Umbria. Initial information received so far indicates that two guerrillas have been killed in the clash.

Despite the silence maintained by military sources, which have neither confirmed nor denied the information, it was learned this morning that the guerrilla command is headed by leader Jaime Bateman.

1981 OPERATIONAL PLAN RELEASED BY GOVERNMENT

PA092205 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Apr 81

[By Vicente Viera]

[Excerpts] The 1981 operational plan of the general 5-year development plan was delivered by the vice president to the president this morning. At noon, reporters were called to a news conference at the vice president's office and Vice President Osvaldo Hurtado told us that in Latin America, the experience in operational planning is very elementary and in Ecuador this is the first time that an operational plan is designed. The plan has been delivered late but this won't hurt the implementation of the plan.

Here is part of what the vice president said during this important news conference: [Begin recording] As you recall, the operational plan was examined by the president, the government and the national development council director at the end of last year and during the first month of this year and their suggestions were included in the final document. I say this because what the president has to do now is to examine the changes resulting from the economic effects of Peru's act of aggression and the changes made in the state budget when the executive branch in a show of austerity cut back 5 percent of the spending foreseen for this year. The president has told me that before his trip, he will [word indistinct] this plan so that it can be implemented by all public agencies.

The fact that the operational plan is just being released now doesn't mean that it will begin being implemented by the ministries and other public agencies next week for several reasons: First, the mechanism for implementating a plan is the state budget and the state budget has been in effect since January; second, the plan includes the projects and programs contemplated in the national development plan and those projects and programs have been under implementation since last year and they have not been stopped in the last 3 months; and finally, since the implementing bodies were involved in designing the operational plan, they knew its contents since they suggested several actions and those have been carried out in the last 3 months. Therefore, the delay in the design and final formulation of the plan will not affect its implementation.

The reasons for the delay are known to you. The operational plan was ready toward the end of January. We had been able to overcome the problems that arose from the delay in the approval of the state budget but, as a result of Peru's invasion of Ecuadorean territory, the National Development Council had to take the new emergency situation into account and devote almost all its time to working with the National Security Council in the formulation of some emergency programs, for instance, for the purpose of supplies. Some 2 weeks ago I had the pleasure of delivering to the National Security Council and to the defense minister the report drawn up by the Planning Secretariat which will be very useful for the planning that the armed forces must do in economic and social matters as regards national emergencies. [end recording]

The vice president added that the operational plan plays an important role in the implementation of the 5-year development plan and that every year there will be an operational plan. He also mentioned the economic measures recently taken by the government and he said that if the incumbent administration has been really successful at anything, it is in the handling of its economic policy. Not to have taken those economic measures would have been irresponsible to the nation. Reporters also asked him what the government's position would be on the Andean Pact right now since the vice president belongs to a special study committee. He replied it would not be advisable for me to air views on such a delicate international issue now.

He was asked about popular democracy's role in El Salvador and what his point of view is as an Ecuadorean Christian Democrat.

INTERIOR MINISTER WARNS 'BAD POLITICIANS'

Py091735 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 9 Apr 81 p 8

[Excerpt] During a brief meeting of the Colorado Party Executive Board, presided over by Colorado Party President Juan Ramon Chaves, Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro praised Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner's recent speech to Congress.

Minister Montanaro voiced his solidarity with and praise for the efforts of the president and pointed out that this attitude "has not been shared by certain political groups who are not wanted even within their own parties and style themselves extraparliamentarians."

Montanaro went on to say: "Let these bad politicians and bad Paraguayans know that they have been trying our patience too far." The interior minister added that these opponents "have joined the MOPOCO [Colorado Party Popular Movement] and other leftwing groups abroad for purposes unknown to us."

MINISTER EXPLAINS CLOSING OF AIFLD OFFICE

PY081602 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 8 Apr 81 p 13

[Excerpts] In answer to a question by this newspaper, Justice and Labor Minister Saul Gonzalez stated yesterday that "the closing of the American Institute for Free Labor Development [AIFLD] office in our country has nothing to do with the Paraguayan Workers Federation [CPT]. The closing of the AIFLD office had been announced long before the CPT congress, and this is due exclusively to AIFLD administrative matters." Torres Lazo [AIFLD regional director] also referred to the $50,000 granted to the CPT, while Modesto Ali [former CPT secretary general] indicated that with the closing of the AIFLD office the CPT loses international prestige. Sotero Ledesma [current CPT secretary general] stated, however, that "Torres Lazo can go elsewhere with his song."

Torres Lazo explained yesterday that the $50,000 granted to the CPT was not intended to finance the political campaign of Dr Modesto Ali, but that it was a contribution for the formation of a savings and credit cooperative for the workers.

Torres Lazo stated that AIFLD had been accused of granting that money to support Ali. "That accusation made by the justice and labor minister is ill-intended, because he knows very well that it was a contribution to form a cooperative," he stated.

He reaffirmed that the closing of the AIFLD office is a consequence of the latest events within the CPT, but he did not refer to administrative reasons which had led to the closing of the office in our country. Torres Lazo has already left our country, it was learned in Chile, where he is headquartered.

OPPOSITION LEADER ON U.S. VIEW OF STROESSNER RULE

PY082055 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 8 Apr 81 p 12

["Text" of letter from Domingo Laino, secretary general of Radical Liberal Party, to ABC COLOR, dated 3 April 1981, published in the "Letters to the Director" column]

[Text] The article "Stroessner and Reagan" is published on page 12 of today's issue of your daily; it says that "the White House has let the Paraguayan president know that he would be welcome if he wished to go and visit President Reagan in Washington." It adds that "to the satisfaction of the department of state, Stroessner is a stable ruler; he does not govern through political repression; he is anticommunist, and he has never done anything against the United States," etc.

This is all very well, as long as President Reagan or the White House limit themselves to identifying themselves with President Stroessner, feel honored by his presence or admire his anticommunism. But Paraguay's democratic opposition will never allow anybody--however powerful he may be--to make statements abroad which do not reflect the true nature of the regime in power in Paraguay. For this reason, our feelings as free men are hurt by the State Department or White House assertion--as quoted by ABC COLOR and VEJA--that "Stroessner does not govern through political repression."

In Paraguay there has been a state of siege (emergency) since Stroessner took power by force 26 years ago (a stable ruler since 1954? This is true, gentlemen of the White House. Paraguay exiles are the oldest in Latin America: numerous authentic radicals, Febrerists, priests, intellectuals, independents and the whole leadership of the Popular Colorado Movement (MOPOCO) have spent over 20 years abroad without being able to return to their native soil.

On three consecutive occasions, the OAS censured the Stroessner regime for having committed serious violations of human rights. See the resolutions of the conferences held in 1978 (Washington), 1979 (La Paz) and 1980 (Washington).

I would not have liked to speak about myself, but my case is to some extent the same as that of most genuine opposition leaders and my evidence in this field has therefore a certain value. I will shortly mention the following: My telephones have been cut since 1978, although I continue paying the connection fee to the National Telecommunications Administration (ANTELCO), which received aid from the FRG Government; my wife and I have not succeeded in obtaining such documents as passports, and the police give no reasons for this; we are under surveillance; we have been kidnapped and tortured; I have been held incommunicado as a prisoner. All this happens whenever the "democratic and stable ruler" orders it.

Once we were expelled from the airport. At another time I was hindered from traveling abroad. Again, when we arrived at the airport, we were "delayed" there and our papers, documents, books, address booklets, etc., were confiscated by investigations police personnel.

Furthermore, after Somoza was shot, mixed military-police forces entered my home for a meticulous search operation. This was the second time, for in 1967 personnel of the Interior Ministry Technical Office [special political police] did so for the first time. Both times they confiscated books, papers, documents, letters, etc. without any legal warrant. The things taken away the second time have been returned to me, but the things that were confiscated in 1967, and then at the airport in 1981, are still kept by the force of "order and peace."

In order not to enlarge on the subject, I will conclude by telling how we were also attacked with sticks and other objects by plainclothesmen. On 14 April 1956 a well-identifiable mob took us along Palma Street under a rain of blows to police headquarters. Only a few years ago we were beaten even harder at the Asuncion Catholic University (after which I was taken to a hospital). In Villarrica there were preparations to lynch us at the instigation of the "democratic" officials of the city. We fortunately managed to excape, but we lost our professorship at the university there.

Mr Director, it is permitted and lawful for a newspaper to write in its pages whatever it believes necessary for the public to know. The White House or the U.S. Department of State also has a right to say whatever it pleases about its allies or "anticommunist friends" in the Southern Cone.

But it is just as true that no one has a right to tell lies, particularly when the lie is so big as this: "Stroessner does not rule through political repression."

NATIONAL AGREEMENT REPORTS ON MEETING IN SAO PAULO

PY091759 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 9 Apr 81 p 8

[Text] The coordinating board of the National Agreement yesterday issued a press communique stating that this organization "publicly held a plenary meeting in the city of Sao Paulo (Brasil) from 15 to 17 March and that this meeting was attended by the representatives of the political parties which make up this organization: the Colorado Party Popular Movement (MCPOCO); Authentic Radical Liberal Party; Christian Democratic Party; and the Revolutionary Febrerista Party."

The communique stated that, among other things, the following conclusions were reached at the plenary meeting: "In view of the obvious signs of attiriton of the current regime, the National Agreement wishes to reiterate once again that the solution to the serious situation which the country is experiencing can be obtained only through the enforcement of true state of law, based on broad social support and vested with profoundly moral meaning."

It went on to say that "in our quest for broadening and strengthening its framework, the National Agreement has studied the need to expand its political guidelines by giving attention to vital social and economic issues so as to provide answers for the concern and anxiety of the Paraguayan people."

It further adds that "within the framework of our rapprochement to other democratic parties of the continent," meetings have been held in Brasilia with the congressmen of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, with the archbishop of Sao Paulo, Cardinal Evaristo Arns, and with union leader and President of the Workers Party Ignacio da Silva (Lula), among others.

"We would like to point out to the Paraguayan people that in view of the lack of guarantees and the unfair ban to which one of our member parties (MOPOCO) is subjected, the meeting took place abroad once more, thanks to the solidarity of the Brazilian democrats. As to the insidious charges by official sources, we would like to reaffirm our total opposition to terrorism as a political method," the communique ends.

BRIEFS

CHILEAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS--The new Chilean ambassador, Gen Odlanier Rafael Mena Salinas has presented his credentials to Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner. [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 31 March 81 p 8 PY]

ACCORDS WITH FRG--Three accords amounting to DM3,125,848 were signed yesterday with the FRG. One of these accords is aimed at drawing up an industiral plan capable of precluding improper development of sectors or areas. The other two accords deal with promotion of public health and improvement of the services rendered by the Juan Max Boettner Lung Hospital. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 3 Apr 81 p 12 PY]

ECUADOR SCORED FOR NOT RECOGNIZING RIO PROTOCOL

PY0814570 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0425 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Lima, 8 Apr (TELAM)--The Peruvian foreign minister has stated that Ecuador is maintaining an absurd position by denying the validity of the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol, which says that the Condor Mountain Range is a border zone between Peru and Ecuador.

After a meeting with President Fernando Belaunde, Javier Arias Stella told the press that this refusal to recognize the mountain range as a dividing line is invalid, becuase it is stipulated in the 1942 protocol that border markers will be placed on the Condor Range.

He stressed that this was confirmed when the military officers from the guarantor countries negotiated the separation of troops after the recent incident. They said that the respective forces would remain on the Eastern slope (Peruvians) and on the Western slope (Ecuadoreans) of the moutain range. The Condor Range is thus the natural line separating the Peruvian and Ecuadorean troops.

JOINT COMMAND OBJECTS TO GOVERNMENT OIL POLICY

PY0923326 Paris AFP in Spanish 1910 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Lima, 9 Apr (AFP)--Vice Adm Juan Egusquiza, chief of the Joint Command, has stated that the Peruvian Armed Forces Joint Command has made two objections to the petroleum policy of the government of President Fernando Belaunde.

He noted that the recent operations agreement signed with the U.S. company Superior Oil can be considered positive and acceptable from a contractual standpoint. Yet, he added, the Joint Command has expressed its concern over the fact that Lot No 2, which is located at a jungle near the Ecuadorean border and which is regarded as a low risk area, has been assigned to the U.S. company instead of being reserved for the government-owned enterprise PETROPERU.

He added that the Joint Command also expressed its concern over the extension of tax incentives provided under the petroleum law to companies which are already operating in the country, such as the U.S. companies Occidental Petroleum and Belco Petroleum and the Argentine Bridas.

It has been reported in government circles that in accordance with the law, several government organizations, including the Joint Command, should be consulted on matters dealing with petroleum, and that this requirement was observed in the case of the contract signed with Superior Oil.

ISRAELI MINISTER DENIES SALE OF PLANES TO ECUADOR

PY1011154 Paris AFP in Spanish 1942 GMT 9 apr 81

[Text] Lima, 9 Apr (AFP)--Ari'el Sharon, Israeli agriculture minister, has denied that his country sold fighter planes to Ecuador.

Speaking with journalists after a meeting with President Fernando Belaunde, Minister Sharon told them that there were talks with Ecuador about the sales of planes but that no agreement was reached. He then said that Israel wishes peace for the American Continent and that it has no intention of interfering in the differences existing between Peru and Ecuador.

Noting that his presence here indicates that his country does not want to hurt Peru in any way, Minister Sharon said that Israel will take into consideration a request from Peru if this country wants to acquire planes.

The Israeli agriculture minister then explained that his presence here is intended to promote closer relations between the two countries, particularly in projects related to irrigation, in which Israel has accumulated a great deal of experience. He then added that he is interested in reactivating the agricultural extension service and promoting agricultural cooperation, and that he talked about this with President Belaunde. He ended by saying that he is willing to make available to Peru a data processing service for the marketing of agricultural products.

GUEILER TO FORM BOLIVIA 'LIBERATION FRONT'

PY090133 Paris AFP in Spanish 2001 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Lima, 8 Apr (AFP)--Former Bolivian President Lidia Gueiler announced here today her decision to unite all Bolivian political parties to form a liberation front of the Bolivian people.

For its part, the Bolivian Embassy in this capital charged that the tour of the former president has subversive goals, as was already announced here by Hernan Siles Zuazo.

At a press conference held today with former Senator Oscar Zamora, Mrs Gueiler said that she will immediately contact Siles Zuazo to seek the formation of the front.

Noting that all Bolivian political leaders must relinquish their personal, biased ambitions, she said that the front is the only alternative for democratizing the country.

She said the front must seek the resstablishment of the congress in line with the results of the latest Bolivian elections, adding that this congress should elect the new president--an office she does not want.

She expressed her confidence in the success of her mission because all Bolivian parties have reiterated their democratic position. She added that Hugo Banzer's party should give up its idea of a constitutent assembly.

Finally, she made it clear that she had resigned from the presidency due to the pressure exerted on her by those behind the military coup and to spare greater hardships to her people. She noted, however, that her resignation was illegal.

For its part, the Bolivian Embassy stated that the former president had resigned in the presence of the apostolic nuncio and former Foreign Minister Gaston Araoz, and had voluntarily given up power. The embassy added that her tour through countries that border Bolivia coincides with the presence of agitators, all of which indicates that her tour will be again used for the subversive purposes, already announced by Siles Zuazo.

NEW LOPEZ PORTILLO-REAGAN MEETING SITE PROPOSED

PA092236 Paris AFP in Spanish GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] [No dateline]--Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo has proposed that his meeting with his U.S. colleague Ronald Reagan, scheduled for 27 April, be held in Washington instead of Tijuana and San Diego as planned.

A Mexican Foreign Minister spokesman told AFP today that Lopez Portillo's suggestion was prompted by President Reagan's health. It was sent through routine diplomatic channels.

Meanwhile, the Mexican Foreign Ministry was working on the meeting according to the original program. Any changes will be made as soon as a reply is received from the White House on President Lopez Portillo's suggestion. As of yesterday, the U.S. Embassy in Mexico did not have any order to change the place and time of the meeting as originally planned.

POLITICIANS COMMNET ON POSSIBLE OPEC MEMBERSHIP

FL100044 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2116 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Apr (MOTIMEX)--Mexican Democratic Party (PDM) leader Jesus Zamora said today that Mexico should not join the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) because it would not gain anything from joining. He said that joining the OPEC would be tantamount to surrendering its autonomy in oil policy.

Zamora noted tht Mexico has never been a scab for the OPEC, but it should remain on the sidelines in order to achieve a series of advantages. For this reason, Mexico should decline Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins' invitation to join OPEC.

Meanwhile, leftwing coalition Deputy Roberto Jaramillo declared himself in favor of Mexico joining OPEC as an urgent measure to be in a better position to defend its petroleum in face of U.S. pressures. He said that joining other oil nations, the country, as a crude exporter, would benefit from greater assistance and solidarity in commerical negotiations.

He noted tht Mexican participation in OPEC would not mean losing political autonomy in petroleum matters since it would only have to abide by those decisions beneficial to Mexico.

PRC DELEGATION MEETS WITH PEASANT LEADERS

FL091240 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0455 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 8 Apr (NOTIMEX)--The PRC Communist Party delegation yesterday met with the National Executive Committee of the National Peasant Confederation (CNC) to exchange experiences on the agricultural structure and peasant organizations of the two countries. The Chinese delegation asked senator and CNC leader Cervera Pacheco to explain the agricultural process in Mexico and its peasant confederation.

The chief of the Chinese party delegation, Zhang Zhixiang, said the agrarian process in Mexico is similar to that of China because the peasants in his country had to make a revolution to free themselves from the deteriorated conditions of life imposed on them by the large landowners. He said China has given priority to agricultural development, citing as an example the production of grains which reached 330 million tons in 1980.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON HONDURAN HIJACKING

PA092002 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2144 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Panama City, 8 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca today said that Panama did not participate in any illegal action, but that it acted out of humanitarian reasons when it helped in solving the hijacking of a Honduran plane in late March.

At a luncheon with foreign correspondents accredited in Panama, the foreign minister said that the government of President Aristides Royo has received the appreciation of all the parties involved in the case including the Honduran Government and SAHSA Airlines, which owned the Boeing 737 that was diverted to Managua and then here.

According to Illueca, nobody has requested the extradition of the hijackers or has started a suit against them although Panama is a signatory of the international agreement against hijackings, which forces all signatories to try those guilty of this crime even if it was not committed in the respective national territory.

The foreign minister explained to the correspondents that he does not know why it was originally said that 15 political prisoners were going to be released in Honduras in exchange for the hostages in the plane and only 10--9 Salvadorans and 1 Costa Rican--arrived in Panama in the end.

Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera, who also attended the luncheon, disclosed that the Honduran Government explained that the other persons whose release was demanded by the hijackers were not in prison.

Illueca said that he did not know if there was any specific agreement between the Governments of Honduras and Panama on one side, and the hijackers on the other, to solve the case of the hijacking of the SAHSA Boeing.

"However, I can tell you that as far as I know, nobody has yet complained and, in conclusion, Panama helped to solve a serious problem, acting out of humanitarian reasons," the minister said.

The 4 hijackers and 10 prisoners who were released are still in Panama, but they cannot stay here. Efforts are being made to get them asylum in another country, it may be Cuba, several Panamanian officials reported.

Jose Pineda Gomez, president of the Honduran Supreme Court, today said in Tegucigalpa that it is very difficult for Honduras to obtain the extradition of the hijackers who held the SAHSA plane.

The judge explained that the incident is of such magnitude that it goes beyond the jurisdiction of the Honduran justice, aside from the fact that the legal procedure is almost impossible because the names of the individuals to be extradited are unknown.

The hijackers, three men and one woman, who threatened to dynamite the plane if their demands were not met, said that they were members of a "Cinchonero Peoples Liberation Movement" which was up to then almost unknown in Honduras.

A Panamanian opposition newspaper, LA PRENSA, reported a few days ago that several governments, including that of the United States, were exerting pressure on Panama to try the hijackers in compliance with international agreements on the repression of hijackings.

Foreign Minister Illueca said that such an action should be taken by the judicial and not the executive branch of which he is a part, and reiterated that in any case, one of the affected parties would have to press charges and this has not yet happened.

Governments' Notes Received

PA100253 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca today admitted that the governments of the United States, FRG, Great Britain, France and Canada had sent notes to the Panamanian Government, expressing their concern over Panama's handling of the SAHSA Boeing 737 aircraft which was hijacked to Panama. According to Illueca, Panama's participation in the negotiations with the hijackers has been conducted according to what international agreements specify regarding the hijacking of planes; Panama got involved in it only for humanitarian reasons and at all times acted with the approval of the Honduran Government which coordinated the negotiations.

Illueca added that the four members of the Cinchonero commandoes who hijacked the SAHSA plane to Managua on 27 March and the 10 political prisoners released by the Honduran Government are in the custody of the Panamanian National Guard and that the Foreign Ministry is conducting negotiations to send them to Cuba or any other country that will accept them.

Referring to another issue, Foreign Minister Illueca said that the Panamanian Government abides by the decision of the Colombian Government to arraign several Panamanians involved in the subversive activities of the guerrilla organization 19 April Movement. Illueca said that the three Panamanians involved have been properly identified.

Regarding Panama's efforts to get the Argentine Government to release former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron, Illueca said that they will continue in a way that it does not interfere with the relations with Gen Roberto Viola's new government.

U.S. SUSPENSION OF NICARAGUA AID DISCUSSED

Illueca Comments

PA091737 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2130 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Panama City, 8 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca said today that his government and those of all Latin America are "concerned" over the suspension of the U.S. aid to Nicaragua.

In a luncheon with foreign correspondents accredited in Panama, Illueca explained that "in the latest SELA meeting in Caracas, there was a consensus of concern over this U.S. measure, especially because it involves a credit of approximately 59 million for the purchase of wheat."

The foreign minister added that this "concern" was unanimously expressed throughout the continent including governments which do not have much ideological and political affinity with Nicaragua.

He also said that U.S. representatives said in Caracas that the decision to suspend the aid to Nicaragua could be reviewed according to the behavior of the Managua government.

The government of Ronald Reagan announced that the suspension of the aid to Nicaragua was due to the Sandinist military support to the leftist Salvadoran guerrillas.

The suspended aid, aside from the credit to purchase wheat, includes the last $15 million of a $75-million loan for which the United States and Nicaragua have been bargaining over in the past few years.

Group's Condemnation

PA070246 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Text] Panama City--The National Committee for the Defense of Sovereignty and Peace [CONADESOPAZ] of Panama, today condemned the U.S. economic aggression against Nicaragua and warned about the threat of an invasion by mercenary troops.

In a message to the Nicaraguan Sandinist government, the CONADESOPAZ said that the suspension of a $9.6 million for the purchase of food in the United States is part of an economic blockade. The note adds that the National Reconstruction Government and the Nicaraguan people are victims of economic aggression because of their decision to take an independent path, free of the influence and exploitation by U.S. transnational companies.

This aggression encourages a possible armed invasion of Nicaragua by Somozist mercenary forces trained in Honduras, Guatemala and Miami with the complicity of the U.S. Government, the CONADESOPAZ claims.

ILLUECA DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH USSR, PRC

PA091946 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2220 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Panama City, 8 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca yesterday admitted that it is "an anachronism" that Panama has no relations with the Soviet Union or the PRC. However, when asked why, he answered: "I'll pass this question on to President Aristides Royo."

At a luncheon with foreign correspondents accredited in Panama, Illueca first answered a TASS correspondent by telling him that although there are no "formal relations" with embassies in the respective capitals, Panama does have "pragmatic relations" between its government and those of Moscow and Beijing.

Illueca explained that many specific agreements between Panama on one side and the USSR or the PRC on the other have been signed at the United Nations, where he was the ambassador prior to his recent appointment as foreign minister.

When a French newswoman insisted on the topic and cited Illueca himself as admitting that it is "anachronistic" not to have ambassadors in Moscow and Beijing, particularly if even the United States has established diplomatic missions there, the foreign minister only smiled and said that he was going to pass that question on to the president.

Illueca did not want to discuss statements by a top Panamanian official who harshly criticized the Latin American policy of the regime of Fidel Castro, noting that "the relations with Cuba are normal."

BANS ON REFUGEES TEMPORARY, SAYS FOREIGN MINISTER

PA092245 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2246 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Panama City, 8 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca today told ACAN-EFE that the measures adopted weeks ago by former government chief Omar Torrijos, commander of the National Guard, to control the activities of refugees in Panama will be "temporary."

The foreign minister revealed that the measures were adopted because of difficulties with Colombia due to charges of infiltration into that country by armed elements from Panama.

According to Illueca, Panama traditionally has been respectful of the right of asylum and has received such illustrious refugees as deceased Juan Domingo Peron and the shah of Iran.

The control ordered by General Torrijos includes a ban on refugees participating in any act against the governments of their respective countries. They will not be permitted even to make public statements against their countries' authorities.

ELECTORAI TRIBUNAL HEAD WARNS OF MILITARY RULE

PA091249 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Apr 81 p 1 A

[Text] Luis Carlos Noriega, electoral tribunal president, yesterday sounded a serious warning that military governments are the final consequence of the failure of civilian rule.

Noriega made a public statement yesterday at the tribunal office during a toast which followed the protocol ceremony for the registration of a new political party, the Popular Action Party.

"Let's beware," he said after noting that "ruling military juntas always appear after civilian governments fail." According to Noriega, "civilian rule degenerates into military rule due to deficiencies and lack of understanding."

The tribunal president again harshly criticized President Aristides Royo's administration for its conduct concerning the persistent request for economic autonomy filed by the tribunal's magistrates. According to Noriega, the executive branch authorized only about 170,000 balboas cut of the nearly 250,000 balboas which were requested by the tribunal to operate this year. After noting that no official explanation was given for the budget action, the tribunal president said he believes "the planning of the nation's budget has become muddled."

"A committee makes allocations and takes them away at will...These are the things that have to be corrected in the administration." Noriega contended.

"Why not?" He pondered, shortly after members of the new party's political committee asked for official views on the tribunal's ability to handle the electoral aspects of a future consituent assembly.

Noriega firmly defended the electoral tribunal's power to convene elections even without the executive branch's approval.

If 500,000 people show up, we can't refuse to call a constituent assembly," he added.

Noriega denied the possibility that the electoral tribunal might accept as valid an accusation of "sedition" hurled against a formal request for a constituent assembly.

He recalled the systematic estrangement of the electoral tribunal from the executive branch, something that was done for moral and legal reasons, and he noted the tribunal's right to convene popular elections.

The electoral tribunal wants to be apolitical...The law does not stipulate that, but it is a question of morals," he noted.

The reelected magistrate said he is convinced "the electoral tribunal is above the political parties."

COSTA RICA

CARAZO, PRIVATE ENTERPRISE REACH AGREEMENTS

PA100046 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] The measures enforced by the government on businesses operating with foreign exchange, which caused a break in relations between the industrial sector and the government, were reconsidered following a meeting held yesterday at noon at the Presidency.

In view of the Chamber of Industry's decision not to attend any presidential activity and to exercise pressure to force the Government to make its economic measures more flexible, President Rodrigo Carazo summoned the Costa Rican Union of Private Enterprise Chambers and Associations, headed by Max Koberg, to a meeting.

The businessmen met with President Carazo for almost 4 hours. They analyzed the economic situation, mainly the extension of deadlines, the refund of advance deposits and other measures which the businessmen considered harmful to their activities.

The businessmen believe that many of their demands have been resolved because of the different attitude adopted by the Central Bank and the Treasury Ministry, who have agreed to make some changes.

The two sectors termed the results of the meeting positive if the deadline for a decision is extended until Friday, if the deadline for the deposit is extended from 20 to 30 April, and if time-deposit certificates, even if they are not due, will be accepted as payment, with compensation for the difference.

On the other hand, the government will issue a decree which will be published on Friday suspending an increase of 5 to 6 percent in the export tax until a fixed exchange rate has been established.

Although Koberg believes that the executive's change of attitude opens a path to the resumption of the dialogue, he said that the businessmen will wait until the promised decrees are published. He justified the stand adopted by the industrialists who, he said, have reached a point of frustration due to offers which were made and not fulfilled, as we have seen.

At the end of the meeting with the Costa Rican Union of Private Enterprise Chambers and Associations, President Carazo said that many of the businessmen's impressions were due to a lack of information.

I believe we understand each other now, he said, and I know that the difficult moments we are experiencing worry the businessmen. The president was emphatic in saying that yesterday's meeting cleared up many problems and that now that it's over, and once some explanations are made public, the tension will cease.

He added that the current situation with the International Monetary Fund demands a number of sacrifices, but with the arrangements reached yesterday the situation is more tolerable.

Yesterday at noon and in the evening, respectively, The industrialists and the businessmen expressed their complete satisfaction with the steps taken by the Central Bank. Among them is the refund of advance deposits, which will place in the hands of the businessmen 100 colones, which were practically frozen, for the [word indistinct] of the time-deposit certificates. The 6-percent export tax was also suspended.

Last night, after the Costa Rican Chamber of Commerce held a general assembly meeting, Angel Nieto said that the organization was optimistic. He affirmed that they had remained calm and had placed the country's interests before their own. He said that the businessmen are aware of the need to maintain domestic peace and to contribute, to the best of their ability, to maintaining our peace and our democracy.

OFFICIAL SAYS DEPORTATIONS ACCORDING TO LAW

PA091559 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Roldofo Quiros Cedeno, director of immigration inspectors, said that in the 3 years he has been in charge of the department which handles the deportation of foreigners many people have had to leave the country.

In every case we have acted according to the existing laws and no foreigner will be deported on the basis of his ideology, race, country or origin or position, Quiros Cedeno said.

I am surprised, he added, that the justice minister is now questioning the actions of the Immigration Department and implying that we are acting arbitrarily.

EL SALVADOR

DEFENSE MINISTER DENIES COUP PLOT, PRAISES MILITARY

PA100204 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 9 Apr 81 pp 3, 45

[Excerpts] "As far as I know, there is no one planning a coup d'etat, but if there is, no matter who carries it out, the country will sink," Defense Minister Col Jose Guillermo Garcia said at a luncheon in his honor given by the American Chamber of Commerce of El Salvador.

The luncheon was held at El Camino Real Hotel. The assistant secretary of defense, businessmen and members of the industrial sector attended the reception.

In relation to an alleged coup d'etat plot, Colonel Garcia explained that "El Salvador's best ally at this moment is the United States which would not support a government that would seize power through a coup d'etat. No matter who carried out the coup, the country would sink and we will have no part in it. In such a case, you will have to pack your suitcases and leave," Colonel Garcia said.

Colonel Garcia talked about the armed forces activities since 15 October 1979, when it overthrew General Carlos Humberto Romero's regime, to this date.

He said that the first junta's main objective was to destroy the armed forces and other institutions.

According to Colonel Garcia, the armed forces are playing an important and decisive role. "I dare say that the country's destiny is at stake in this historic and crucial moment of our lives."

He mentioned the fact that the people are asking for arms or for protection and that the armed forces are trying their best to protect the people, but that, it is not always successful in doing so. In another portion of his speech, Colonel Garcia referred to the importance of free enterprise in the nation's life and to the armed forces obligation to protect the people's interests.

When asked about the war going on, Colonel Garcia said: "We are winning and the final victory will be ours."

Regarding armed forces discipline, he said that there have been no desertions, apart from the three cases of treason, which is something different. He stressed that armed forces morale is high.

Colonel Garcia expressed commendation for the members of the armed forces killed in combat defending the people's interests.

"It is absolutely false that the military is tired; Salvadoran soldiers know their responsibility," Colonel Garcia pointed out when someone mentioned the possibility of the soldiers being worn out.

According to Colonel Garcia, the communist bloc is vitally interested in seizing control of our country because if El Salvador falls, other countries will follow suit, including "countries that are trying to give us lessons on democracy, and don't know what it is all about."

He also praised the courage shown by the Salvadoran people who despite the terrorists' threats, did not stop working on 12 January. This was a categorical no to the extremists.

NATIONAL GUARD CHIEF: MILITARY CONTROLS COUNTRY

PA092220 Paris AFP in Spanish 1506 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] San Salvador, 9 Apr (AFP)--The Salvadoran guerrilla groups continue occupying "some important positions of difficult access" in some areas of the country, the director of the National Guard of El Salvador, Col Eugenio Vides Casanova, admitted here today.

In statements to AFP, the military chief said, however, that he is optimistic about the Salvadoran situation. he maintained that the armed forces, which fight the rebels "in a measured fashion," has control of the entire country in general terms.

"I know there are areas in the nation where we still have problems with subversive groups holding important positions of difficult access. In all those areas, however, the armed forces are conducting operations to clean up the areas as much as possible," Vides Casanova commented.

In the National Guard chief's opinion, despite the possibility that the Salvadoran Armed Forces could have reacted with greater violence in the face of the fierce rebel resistance, "the action has been planned and thought out without excesses." The tactic, he explained, has been to "locate the enemy in the various areas and then send just the required force to neutralize them."

Explaining further the "measured" operations, Colonel Vides said the armed forces fight according to the force presented by the subversive groups so as to keep them under control, without annihilating them totally. The military chief said the use of that tactic of "fighting without an excessive force" has prevented greater bloodshed than that experienced so far.

Colonel Vides explained that the armed forces adopted such a tactic, "even though it is capable of eliminating the guerrillas," not only to avoid needless bloodshed, but also to give the rebels an opportunity to benefit from the amnesty which will be in effect until 11 April.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran Defense Minister Col Jose Guillermo Garcia today reiterated that the government maintains "absolute control" of the country militarily.

Spokesmen for the opposing Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, however, insisted that the guerrillas continue to be entrenched and to harass the government forces in broad sectors of Suchitoto and Guazapa, Cuscatlan Department, in the central part of the country.

At the same time, rumors again started circulating in San Salvador about an imminent second guerrilla general offensive of the FMLN, probably during Holy Week or on 1 May, coinciding with the international workers' holiday.

Military sources said the armed forces will remain on the alert, because even if the rebels use rumors as a psychological weapon, such rumors could sometime become a reality.

POLICE RAID GUERRILLA MEETING IN SAN NICOLAS

PA100022 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 9 Apr 81 pp 33, 2

[Text] Nine extremist leaders representing the clandestine organizations were the ones who called the meeting which the Treasury Police broke up 2 days ago in San Nicolas District in Soyapango. At least 23 were killed and many wounded fled in the dark, a military source reported yesterday.

The armed forces spokesman said that thanks to confidential reports obtained from residents of Monte Carmelo, Florencia, Las Divisas, 22 April Districts and areas neighboring San Nicolas District, the authorities learned about the meeting in which the members of the extremist organizations were planning their future activities such as holdups, arsons, armed robbery, attacks on military and security forces and other crimes to be carried in the near future.

In their first action, the authorities found out that house No 6 on the main street of San Nicolas District was the place chosen for the meeting, believed to be of top importance for the subversives, who had set up two safehouses to protect the arrival, stay and departure of the nine commanders, whom in addition to giving instructions and receiving reports, would decide the way to carry out actions against the government and citizens in general.

The military source added that the plan was to capture them alive in order to try to obtain information about supplies, arms, personnel, morale and the foreign aid from the extreme left. This was not possible because when the police closed in on them , they received gunfire from all directions, especially from the two safehouses in which the men were well-armed and equipped.

Under the circumstances, the police had no other alternative than to defend themselves and repel the attack which resulted in two police officers wounded, a sergeant seriously wounded and the 23 terrorists dead.

Finally, officials linked to the Treasury Police said that this institution really appreciates the cooperation it receives constantly from people in capital's neighborhoods ; they continuously provide information that leads to positive results and has allowed the police to dismantle houses in the city from which guerrilla cells have been operating. This also has permitted the confiscation of large amounts of arms in various parts in San Salvador and other parts of the country.

FDR DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN REGIONAL VIOLENCE

PA091909 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Communique issued by the Revolutionary Democratic Front, FDR and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front to the governments and peoples of the world--no date or place given]

[Text] In view of recent violent incidents in Costa Rica and Honduras in which an attempt to involve the FDR was made, we feel it is necessary to make the following statement:

1. We zealously respect the policy of self-determination of the nations and the principle of nonintervention in their domestic affairs.

2. The military struggle being carried out by our country is being conducted in our territory, and we have to face here a dictatorship armed and supported by the U.S. Government.

3. We respect the laws and traditions of each nation and recognize that all the peoples of the world have the right and maturity to decide their own fate.

4. Our activities throughout the world are limited to spreading the news about the real situation of our people and to carrying out activities in the diplomatic sphere as well as to winning over the solidarity of the peoples with our just struggle.

5. We repudiate the low maneuver of trying to involve our front and our liberation struggle in acts such as these, activities with which our front had nothing to do and which are completely alien to our way of doing things. We outlined our activities in the previous paragraph.

6. We feel that we must alert the honest and democratic institutions, organizations and persons of the world regarding this type of incident which is aimed at launching a campaign of hatred against the Salvadorans and their struggle with the following goals in mind:

A. To destroy the sympathy and support that the cause of the Salvadoran people have received among the nations of the world.

B. To start a campaign of persecution against the Salvadorans who, in fleeing the repression of the Christian Democratic junta, have had to escape and seek refuge in other countries of the continent.

C. To discredit the democratic, popular and revolutionary organizations which make up our front and their efforts to build a lasting peace and a society of justice in our country.

Therefore, the Salvadoran people advocate peace and a political solution to the conflict. We are involved in a war of legitimate defense in order to obtain peace based on social justice and we are sure that no [word indistinct] maneuver will break the ties of friendship among El Salvador and the other nations of the world. Our people have right and justice on their side and for this reason we are sure that we will overcome all obstacles and will reach victory.

FMLN ISSUES WAR BULLETINS ON LATEST ACTIONS

War Bulletin No 88

PA091615 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 9 Apr 81

[War bulletin No 88 issued on 7 April 1981 by the Information Section of the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN]

[Text] Report from Francisco Sanchez eastern front: The force of the FMLN routed a criminal operation on Monday, 6 April. Our intelligence units had learned that, on the morning of 6 April, large contingents of the puppet army were to move from infantry regiments at the 3d military zone to reinforce the worn out and demoralized operations command in the northern area of the department. At 1000, on the road from San Francisco Gotera to the border with Honduras, some 800 meters after the town of (Maltu) we ambushed a convoy made up of four armored vehicles which were taking troops to the battlefront. We cut the convoy in half and separated the contingents which were ahead of our military target: two trucks of uniformed criminals. We neutralized those who could not come to the aid of the two trucks, the targets of heavy fire. We inflicted many casualties on them and fled the area without any casualties before they could even recover from their shock.

Metropolitan report: For the sixth time the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador was the target of FMLN guerrilla action. Yesterday afternoon, Monday, 6 April, there occurred heavy fighting in which several civilians were wounded as a result of the hysterical response of the marines and national guardsmen who are guarding the diplomatic mission of the protectors of the genocidal junta.

FMLN military forces seized populous areas of Ciudad Jardin in Mejicanos, 4 km north of San Salvador. Plain clothesmen of White Warriors Union who were at the site retreated while FMLN members put buses across the road and punctured tires. At the same time, they carried out an effective propaganda campaign.

The previous weekend and on 27 April [date as heard], FMLN members intensified their activities in the capital although repressive actions continue on the border with Honduras in Morazan Department, Guazapa and the rural area of Suchitoto in Cuscatlan Department.

Other more significant actions of the FMLN in San Salvador have been the harassing of San Carlos garrison, the headquarters of the 1st Infantry Brigade [words indistinct] with Bazooka and rifle fire [words indistinct] of the military garrison of Ilopango, 11 km east of San Salvador.

Report from the area of Guazapa, Suchitoto by the Modesto Ramirez central front: The press committee of the armed forces of the junta is tangled up in its own lies with misinformation and confusing reports. Yesterday, 6 April, the armed forces reported that the guerrillas had been controlled in the Guazapa Hill area and in the northeastern area of Morazan Department. However, today they reported that they launched a new offensive against Tres Ceibas, [names indistinct] in Cuscatlan. They claimed to have militarily seized territories which are in the hands of the people.

The genocidal attacks have not been delayed. By using intense artillery fire, air attacks and infantry actions, they are sowing terror in this sector with the criminal exception that this time they are dropping pesticide and herbicide bombs in populous areas. It is estimated that more than 600 units participated in [words indistinct] of this seige. Some 2 days later, the enemy lost one officer and had many soldiers wounded, some of them very seriously.

Today in (Chanqueso), Montepeque, Nueva Cruz, Salitre, Los Ramirez, Cerro Pando, [name indistinct] and Tres Ceibas, Palo Grande and Las Inditas in Cuscatlan Department the enemy launced an intense attack to seize the hill but their infantry forces have not advanced on the obstacle-ridden hill. Guazapa Hill continues to be an obsession for murders of the army and the junta.

Other reports indicated that FMLN commando troops dynamited a bridge in Chalatenango Department interrupting traffic. This action again isolates Concepcion de Oriente, Quezaltepeque, Las Ventas, Carrizal, Monte Redondo, Laguna, [names indistinct] and La Cinta.

On Saturday, 4 April, FMLN squads attacked the military garrison in Las Vueltas, Jicaro Canton in Chalatenango Department. The fighting lasted [words indistinct] but there are no reports on the casualties yet.

On Sunday, 5 April, at 2300 guerrilla commandos in the country's central region carried out a surprise attack on a military post on the road to Zacatecoluca. The FMLN force withdrew from the action without having suffered any casualties.

Sunday, 5 April, FMLN forces violently attacked infantry garrisons in Santa Ana, 30 km of San Salvador. Most of the FMLN fire stemmed from the use of mortars and azookas aimed at 5th Avenue South. The enemy reacted too late and the attackers withdrew from the place after this harassment action.

There were clashes in Berlin when the guerrillas seized the road on the coast. In Jutiapa, Cabanas, a squad of FMLN sappers dynamited an electric tower. An FMLN group attacked the Vientos movie theater whose owner is the junta's planning minister. This action was a simple warning to the owner.

United to fight until final victory! Revolution or death! We shall win!

War Bulletin No 89

PA092306 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, is firmly holding its positions on Guazapa Hill despite the continuous attacks by the army which is supported by artillery and the air force.

In its war bulletin No 89, the FMLN general headquarters reported [words indistinct] heavy fighting between the guerrilla commandos and army troops in Mirandilla, El Roble and El Roblar Cantons, located in the area of Suchitoto, Guazapa, in Cuscatlan Departments.

In the meantime, in San Marcos, 8 km from San Salvador, an army patrol ambushed by the guerrillas suffered casualties.

Other insurgents attacked the local police headquarters and the court in Apopa, in the metropolitan area of San Salvador.

Other dispatches reported that the army suffered 50 casualties when a military convoy which was carrying reinforcements to Morazan Department was attacked by FMLN guerrillas. The action occurred less than 1 km from the town of Yoloaiquin.

ECONOMY MINISTER REPORTS ON COFFEE SITUATION

PA091255 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 8 Apr 81 pp 3, 11

[Excerpts] Guillermo Diaz Salazar, economy and foreign trade minister, reported on his return from London that the National Coffee Institute (INCAFE) has collected 3.172 million quintals of coffee worth approximately 750 million colones in recent years.

This proves that El Salvador has maintained a stable marketing program absolutely free of speculation.

Diaz Salazar said that among the most important benefits obtained by El Salvador during the International Coffee Organization council meeting from 30 March to 3 April in London were: a tax exemption for 292,541 bags of coffee; negotiations on the operational aspects of INCAFE on sales contracts already approved and on which El Salvador will not make any profit; the establishment of an international promotional policy to increase the consumption of coffee and negotiations for an increase in the price of coffee.

Diaz Salazar also explained that "there is no coffee quota increase for the time being and it will not be until September that a quota increase will be discussed." El Salvador's coffee quota is 2.4 million bags. The International Coffee Organization did not talk about a price or quota increase for any of the members of the organization.

Diaz Salazar said that if in September El Salvador does not get its quota increased, it should try to maintain the present quota because it will help our economy due to worldwide coffee production problems.

Diaz Salazar said that "INCAFE had established a record in sales and that for the first time in the history of the country, coffee marketing is being handled on a formal basis and speculation has been eliminated, which as not the case when the Salvadoran Coffee Company was in charge. When INCAFE took over, it discovered that a large quantity of coffee was being held back just to speculate with prices, but in the long run this would only have caused big losses to our economy."

NATIONAL NETWORK REDUCED TO 20 MINUTES PER DAY

PA092039 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2307 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Official sources today reported that the national radio network, imposed by the Salvadoran Government junta on 10 January, has been reduced to 20 minutes per day.

This decision was made recently and became effective in the past few hours, due to the demands of the owners of the Salvadoran radio stations.

The national network was from 0700-0800, 1200-1300 and 2000-2100 daily.

The network hookup has been reduced by 2 hours and 40 minutes. Therefore, the network will only last from 1230 to 1250 each afternoon.

The stations that hooked up to Radio Nacional for the network can now resume their regular newscasts.

Nevertheless, broadcasters must observe certain rules regarding the transmission of certain news reports, such as those affecting national security and those that exaggerate political happenings.

GUATEMALA

EDITORIAL CITES CASTILLO VALDEZ ON U.S. POLICY

PA091947 Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 2 Apr 81 p 3

[Editorial]

[Excerpt] The Guatemalan Government has charged the existence of Soviet interference by pointing out that Cuba has sent arms and other support to guerrilla groups in our country. This proves that the Soviets interfere in other parts of the world like Afghanistan, Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Cuba and others. Guatemala is one of the countries so threatened.

What is the role which the United States believes our country should play in this risky situation which could lead to a confrontation in our country?

This is a vitally interesting subject. The reply to the question is of undeniable national interest and has foreign repercussions on several levels.

For the United States itself, whose people are better informed on the thoughts of other nations in relation to its actions toward others, and what is more interesting, of those who are suffering the offensive onslaught of the extreme leftist forces which are trying to eliminate democracy, establish leftist totalitarianisms and subject other countries to Soviet influence. [sentence as published]

It is interesting for economically and militarily weak nations which are seeing themselves or which may be experiencing the onslaught of Soviet expansion. [sentence as published]

Now then, what does Guatemala think about such a delicate and vital subject?

Representatives of this newspaper had the opportunity yesterday to listen to part of the statements made by Foreign Minister Rafael Eduardo Castillo Valdez to U.S. television journalists who posed the question. The foreign minister spoke in English. His statements contained important points.

We understand one of the questions was: What role does the United States play?

The minister said: We do not want the Americans to come here and defend us on our own soil. We are determined to do this ourselves. We are trying to be capable of doing this.

The minister added that we want the United States to effectively defend itself.

He praised the U.S. democratic system, the logical cooperation which must exist among peoples and nations which have the freedom of man among the goals of their work and actions, but he emphasized the need for a basic philosophical factor.

FOREIGN MINISTRY UNWORRIED ABOUT BELIZE'S PROBLEMS

PA091551 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] The recent events in Belize, especially the labor problems, street disturbances, closing of borders and outbreaks of violence are none of our country's concern because they are precisely internal problems of the Belize Government. The foregoing statement was made by the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry in announcing that the border with Guatemala is again open and that there if free highway travel, which had been restricted by Belize.

Furthermore, the current problems in Belize will not interfere with the present negotiations among Great Britain, Belize and Guatemala on the bases of understanding approved by the three countries.

LAND DISTRIBUTION, LOANS TO PEASANTS BEGUN

PA100312 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] The transfer of government land is the initial step of Guatemela's agricultural development but it is definitely considered [words indistinct] popularly the government's decision of [words indistinct] family heritage of the peasants, which constitutes [word indistinct] national agricultural policy established by Guatemalan President General Lucas Garcia. The foregoing is part of public comments made by our country's private sector, which has given its support to the government for the legalized development of Guatemala's agricultural policy.

The next step in the agricultural development will be the granting of loans to the peasants. The Presidency of the Republic announced that within 60 days the Guatemalan Government will grant the first credits to the peasants who have received government land. This will affect no less thatn 25,000 peasant families who will benefit from the land in some 20 national land tracts. The National Agricultural Development Bank will begin granting the loans for the amounts established by the government for the exclusive use of agricultural production on land now legitimately owned by the peasants.

Land ownership constitutes the basis for the establishment of cooperative entities. The National Land Transformation Institute considers it necessary to grant the peasants land ownership in the manner in which the government is proceeding in the distribution of the national land tracts because land ownership is the basis for the establishment's agricultural policy initiated by the governemnt with the distribution land and the assignmnet of land titles.

GUERRILLA GROUPS REPORT ON RECENT OPERATIONS

PA091230 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 31 Mar 81 p 4

[Text] Two communiques, one released by the People's Guerrilla Army [EGP] and the other by the united clandestine groups--EGP, the Armed People's Revolutionary Organization, and the Guatemalan Labor Party--were distributed to the Guatemalan media.

In the first communique, the EGP reports 25 operations in which it had inflicted 89 casualties on the enemy. The other is a 16-page publication reporting 175 operations listed as follows: 10 ambushes of enemy columns, 13 harassment attacks, 74 invasions of ranches and villages, 47 propaganda operations, 23 execution operations of "repressive officials" and 7 sabotage operations.

One of the bulletins described an ambush of an army convoy on 25 March during which many casualties were inflicted. It also gives the names of commissioners and other persons killed by the guerrillas.

HONDURAS

CUSTOMS SEIZES VAN WITH ARMS AT NICARAGUAN BORDER

PA100250 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] A van with arms from Nicaragua has been captured in Guasaule, Choluteca Department. The van was coming from Nicaragua. The arms were hidden inside. Its destination was Tegucigalpa. Several persons have been arrested in connection with this case.

Meanwhile, counterrevolutionary elements recently seized the Guasaule border post, on the Nicaraguan side, according to a communique issued yesterday by a Nicaraguan counter-revolutionary command. It has been reported that there is a radio station that is being used to broadcast commentaries and communiques to counterrevolutionary elements.

In an effort to recover their right to live in Nicaragua, a group of counterrevolutionaries attacked the Guasaule customs post on Monday of this week. The attack took place at 0100. They seized the building and captured five Sandinists but after questioning them extensively, the counterrevolutionaries released them.

The counterrevolutionaries entered the building when everybody was asleep. They removed the Nicaraguan and Sandinist flags from the flag poles.

According to the information we obtained from the border area, the counterrevolutionaries had heavy weapons, machineguns, rifles and a lot of dynamite with which they had planned to blow up the building.

The Sandinists offered no resistance and allowed the Nicaraguans to act freely. We suppose that the counterrevolutionaries are still in Nicaraguan territory.

A van coming from Nicaragua with ammunition has been captured on the Honduran side of Guasaule. On Tuesday, 7 April, members of the 11th Infantry Battalion with headquarters in Choluteca captured a van at the Guasaule customs post. The van was coming from Nicaragua. Its destination was Tegucigalpa. After a careful search, the authorities discovered a large amount of ammunition hidden behind a wood panel. It included 70,000 rounds of ammunition for Israeli Galil rifles, U.S. M-16's and FAL's. Once this was discovered, the van was taken to Tegucigalpa under custody. The van is now probably at a site chosen for it by the armed forces.

On the basis of reports we obtained at the border area, we believe that another van was also coming from Nicaragua. Realizing that the first one had been seized, it returned to the interior of that country because it was bringing the arms that would complement the ammunition.

PARTRIOTIC FRONT TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS

PA100331 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 2 Apr 81 p 8

[Text] San Pedro Sula--Following several months of silent activity, the Honduran Patriotic Front (FPH) has reappeared with a government platform and the aspiration of nominating candidates for the Presidency of the Republic.

Anibal Delgado Fiallos, FPH secretary general, said that the political and social forces that make up the FPH have expressed their decision to fight for power through the electoral path because, since the FPH is not a political-military organization, it meets none of the conditions necessary to head an armed movement.

He said that the idea is for the country's main leftist, democratic and progressive sectors to participate in the electoral process through the FPH which believes that conditions completely different from those in 1980 exist for a broad, unlimited debate and it is hoped that it will be honest.

Delgado Fiallos stressed that the candidates will be the leftwing's most capable individuals, "although I cannot mention any names because I have not been authorized to do so."

He said the FPH does not discard the possibility of an alliance with parties which are already registered, such as the Innovation and Unity Party and the Christian Democratic Party.

However, he warned that this FPH participation in the electoral process is one of the various forms of struggle that the progressive sectors have to adopt in order to reach their goal of promoting a political process that would lead to democracy and national liberation.

NICARAGUA

NEW AMBASSADOR TO UNITED STATES VIEWS RELATIONS

PA090426 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] As had been previously announced, Arturo Cruz leaves for Washington tomorrow to begin his activities as ambassador to the United States. During a news conference at the Foreign Ministry, Arturo Cruz commented on the situation existing between the United States and Nicaragua:

[Begin recording] Well, I would say there is a sort of delicate impasse. I want to emphasize this word because, I see a perfectly feasible solution. The suspension of the disbursement of the $15 million still pending within the package of $75 million is in my opinion, and according to the opinion of political analysts which I have read in publications, an action to appease to a certain extent certain congressional sectors opposed to the Nicaraguan revolution. That is to say, the more conservative and reactionary sectors.

However, the tone of the note itself sent by the United States reflects on one hand that what they describe as financial cooperation, such as the $75 million and what is programmed for 1982 could be restored and also PL-480 [words indistinct] as well as what they call development aid and which I understand is basically for social development, such as education and housing. This could be made available to Nicaragua in the near future.

However, what irks the dignity of the Nicaraguans is the tone of the note.

In my opinion it has had two effects. One is very negative, since it encourages counter-revolutionary sectors abroad to attempt attacks against Nicaragua. However, in Nicaragua evils often turn out to do good in the long run. An example of this is that international solidarity with Nicaragua has strengthened, and what is still more important is that it has created a greater national unity, as can be seen by so many people signing the letter of dignity. [end recording]

Arturo Cruz announced his immediate work plan as new Nicaraguan ambassador to Washington:

[Begin recording] Following the instructions of the government junta and the foreign minister, I will deal with economic matters among other things.

This is important, but it is still more important to maintain a political relationship that will guarantee a reciprocity from people to people and from government to government. This is fundamental, but also in a specific matter, I shall strive for the recuperation of cooperation. This should be one of my first tasks. But I will work mainly to establish a dialogue as soon as possible between Nicaraguan and U.S. Government leaders. I believe there is a gap of mutual distrust and lack of credibility. This gap must be closed with closer relations.

We shall emphasize the establishment of contacts, not only with sectors favorable to us in congress but also with those opposed to us. I think it is our duty as the Nicaraguan diplomatic mission in Washington to present our revolution as it really is and not as a threat to any country. I am greatly interested in establishing a harmonious relationship with the United States and in guaranteeing something which the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction said in their recent statements following the suspension of aid by the United States: Central America is the most important region to us. Naturally, as a country and as a society we are a link between Central American countries. Therefore, the revolutionary government wants to establish a situation of total political stability in Central America. Therefore, in my opinion, our relations with the United States are closely linked in this aspect. [end recording]

Cruz also said that his team will include Carlos Chamorro Coronel, who will act as minister-adviser; Mario de Franco, adviser on economic affairs and Arturo Cordero Cuadra, a second secretary. The team will leave for Washington in the near future.

RADIO SANDINO CITES CONGRESSMAN ON U.S. POLICY

PA091833 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] By suspending its economic aid to Nicaragua, the U.S. Government wants to create economic and political chaos in that country in order to overthrow its government later, Democrat Tom Harking has charged at the U.S. Congress. He added that the Reagan administration lacks enough reliable evidence that the Nicaraguan Government is sending weapons to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

I have seen the air reconaissance pictures and have listened to the CIA's highly confidential reports on the so-called arms traffic from Nicaragua, but after examining the evidence and listening to the CIA's testimony, I am sure that the evidence provided by the Reagan administration is nothing but mere suppositions, Harkin said.

He also said that the report prepared by the Heritage Foundation shows that Nicaragua's fears are not groundless. Among other things, the report says that discontented Nicaraguans might be helped in their armed struggle against the Sandinists by currently exiled former national guardsmen.

Harkin added that one might argue that the Heritage Foundation is just one of those organizations dedicated to the investigation of social problems, but there is more to this foundation, since on of the persons who wrote this report on Nicaragua and El Salvador is no less than Richard Allen, current head of the National Security Council.

This administration is cutting off its economic aid to Nicaragua in order to create problems for its government and to make its citizens suffer so they will turn their backs on the government. This explains the measure adopted by the Reagan government, Harkin noted dramatically at the U.S. Senate. [as heard]

Further on, he said: The United States, I am sorry to say, has a long history of destabilizing governments in the southern part of the Western hemisphere. I just hope that the members of this body will understand and see this situation.

I know that both Nicaragua and El Salvador are small countries. I know that within the context of the global East- West conflict, they matter very little. Nonetheless, in keeping with our own antecedents and with what we regard as social and economic justice for the world's helpless and impoverished people, we must pay more attention to the current developments in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

To Congressman Harkin's statements, we must add that despite the attacks on Nicaragua at the hands of Yankee imperialism, our people are not alone. Nicaragua has the moral and material support of many friendly countries to advance its democratic and independent project of social justice. Even more important is the fact that most Nicaraguans are willing to defend their sovereignty and revolution with their weapons. Neither the United States with its destablizing plans nor the traitorous reaction will be able to stop the Sandinist people's revolution. Our people are aware of imperialism's economic attacks and interventionist plans, but they are also aware of the need to defend this revolution to the utmost.

Station Commentary

PA092151 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Station commentary: "Congressman Harkin and Imperialist Aggression"]

[Text] The charge made at the U.S. Congress on Monday by U.S. Congressman Tom Harkin, the Democratic representative from Iowa, in connection with the suspension of economic aid to Nicaragua once again unmasks the imperialist domination plans of the Yankee government's most reactionary rightwing sectors, headed by Richard Allen and Alexander Haig, which seek to overthrow our government and crush our revolution.

This confirms the irrefutable reasons for the appeal to all Nicaraguans made by our vanguard's National Directorate for the preparation of the military defense of the fatherland and the revolution by massively joining the Sandinist People's Militias and increasing both production and productivity. Furthermore, the charge constitutes conclusive evidence of the truth of our national leaders' charges about the U.S. ruling circles' aggressive and belligerent policy against the Nicaraguan people and the serious dangers that it represents for peace in Central America and the entire world. The representatives' forceful statements blow to pieces the fallacy of the charges against our revolutionary government and reveal the lie concerning the alleged evidence of Nicaragua's interference in El Salvador's domestic affairs. More importantly, they reveal the perverse and true intentions of imposition, prepotence and imperialist domination hidden behind those gross pretexts.

In his speech at the U.S. Congress, Representative Harkin revealed the true designs of the policy outlined by the Reagan administration in connection with fighting international terrorism. After charging that according to reliable sources, members of the former Somozist National Guard have launched more than 100 attacks on Nicaragua from across the Honduran border since 1 January this year, Harkin added: I have no figures on how many have been killed, but I do know that many people have died and that the terrorists flee to the border [passage indistinct] against the people's liberation struggles, as an instrument of imperialist domination, as a weapon of international aggression.

With the technical authority gained as a former U.S. Air Force reconaissance pilot, Harkin affirmed elsewhere in his speech that he is completely sure that the alleged proofs provided--air reconaissance photographs and the highly secret CIA testimony on the so-called arms traffic to El Salvador--are mere suppositions not based on any decisive evidence. According to Representative Harkin, this dirty and unsuccessful maneuver is merely an attempt by certain individuals in the U.S. administration to foil the Nicaraguan revolution and create chaos in that country.

What a contrast with the attitude held by the rightist political groups and the politicized business sectors of our country, which are still hiding behind the imperialist fallacy, intent as they are on turning their backs to the general interests of the people and the fatherland. But this is only a part of Congressman Harkin's testimony. We will discuss the rest later.

FSLN'S VICTOR TIRADO VIEWS INVASION POSSIBILITY

FL100228 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Cuban TV correspondent Pedro Ventura interview with Commander Victor Tirado, head of Nicaragua's Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] delegation to the 16th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party in Prague; date not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Comrade Tirado, the media, including the U.S. media, have reported extensively in recent months on the training of counterrevolutionary individuals, Somozists, anti-Cuban individuals in several camps on U.S. territory to prepare an attack, or create the conditions for an attack, against the Republic of Nicaragua. What is your view on these moves, these preparations?

[Answer] Well, for the past few months, we have been denouncing the military activities of certain counterrevolutionary forces training on Nicaraguan borders and someplace in the United States. The aggression planned is not accidental. We must take into account that when a revolution triumphs, when a movement starts intensifying its revolution, it is only logical that the counterrevolutionary forces, that the scattered forces try to regroup to eliminate or destablize the Sandinist people's revolution.

We have alerted all revolutionary, democratic, progressive forces of the world to watch for this kind of intervention which has already begun with the U.S. suspension of credits, the withholding of another loan to purchase wheat, and the recent suspension of all kinds of economic aid. We believe that this is the first step in an escalation that could culminate with a military invasion.

So we feel we have to alert the world, those progressive governments, to prevent a conflict which could bring extremely serious consequences not only to the Central American area, but also to all of Latin America, and, I would venture, the whole international community. We insist that our Central American region has to be watched closely. All those democratic and revolutionary forces in the world, including the socialist community, must keep a close eye on the region to prevent a conflict.

We do not want a big conflict in Central America. We have always said that we want the best relations with the U.S. Government based on mutual respect and equality. We want the United States to at least respect our independence, our revolution, since they are not willing to help us economically, financially. If they want to economically strangle the revolution, at least they should not try to invade us militarily because, as the general of free men, General Sandino, said, this revolution is the work of the workers and the peasants who will fight to the end. We can sum up the consequences in Sandino's own words: In case of any military aggression on the part of any of the groups in training now, the Nicaraguan revolution will of course defend itself with all its strength and will never give up.

[Question] Thank you, Comrade Victor Tirado, for your words for Cuban television.

DEMONSTRATIONS FOR DIGNITY HELD IN GRANADA

PA092027 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Augusto Acevedo report]

[Text] Granada, Nicaragua--The fatherland is being attacked, the patriots are rising to defend it and the people of Granada are joining the trenches of dignity.

So far, a total of 5,833 citizens have voluntarily showed up to sign up in the five trenches located in Sandino Park, Santa Lucia Communal Park, Sandinist Workers Federation [CST] headquarters, Battalion 8011 house and the Bank of Nicaragua parking lot, in front of the Granada drug store. The dignity trenches operate from 1000 to 1400 and from 1600 to 2000. The people of Granada have voluntarily participated with enthusiasm.

Today at 1200, the Union of Coachmen and Related Workers of the Popular Carriages to Granada will stage a parade and a mass demonstration to repudiate the attacks of Yankee imperialism.

At 1200, the coachmen will receive the members of the 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement and the residents of the local neighborhoods in their carriages to take them for rides all over Granada as part of a popular parade.

At 1500, the People's Literacy Army will once again seize its weapons and take to the streets. Ready to sign, they will march through Granada with their youthful and revolutionary enthusiasm, repudiating anti-imperialist attacks and expressing their anti-imperialism.

At 1800, the Free Nicaragua Cooperative, comprised of taxi drivers, station wagon drivers and related personnel, will march from the Cemetery Square, down Real Street [word indistinct], to the CST trench where they will sign up.

These are today's major tasks, which are to be carried out jointly with the revolutionary state's employees, who at 1730 will hold their first meeting on behalf of the fatherland's dignity and sovereignty at the Fernando Gordillo Popular Culture Center.

The workers will participate in organized fashion today in a big mass demonstration organized by their production centers. (Sugalasa, Prodemasa), the Chamorro Soap Factory, the Prego Soap Factory, the Paniza Furniture Factory, the San Blas [word indistinct], (Monisa), in short, Granada as a whole, alongside its workers, is ardently and patriotically expressing itself and joining the dignity trenches.

COSEP ISSUES STATEMENT ON LOAN SUSPENSION

PA092241 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] The Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] issued a statement today which once more reveals the concern of its members for economic interests without giving a damn about the sovereignty of our fatherland.

In its paragraphs, the document stresses the need for the economic aid of the United States but wants this aid to be given under traditional schemes such as dialogue and commitments about matters our people already know and will not put up with.

We will now read this statement and let the patriotic Nicaraguans judge the COSEP; here is the text:

The COSEP considering that:

1. The economic situation being experienced in Nicaragua is cause for concern by the Nicaraguan private sector.

2. This difficult economic situation, caused by the war against the Somozist dynasty, has deteriorated because of the lack of an adequate political climate for production.

3. We have been publicly and privately telling the government that only by returning to the original guidelines of the government program can we obtain the adequate climate for production needed to reach the goals of economic and social progress wanted by our people.

4. The COSEP supported from the beginning the efforts to obtain a $75 million loan from the U.S. Government, as well as loans and donations from other friendly countries, because we felt that this aid is fundamental to tend to the needs of our people while we achieve the reactivation of our economy.

5. The U.S. Government suspended the delivery of the $15 million of the loan in question.

Therefore, it agrees:

1. To reiterate our full support to the obtaining of loans which are necessary for the economic reactivation of Nicaragua.

2. To urge the U.S. Government to reconsider its decision and resume its economic aid to Nicaragua in view of the country's serious economic situation.

3. To reiterate our position that only by returning to the original guidelines of the government program can we restore national unity and foment the climate of peace needed to truly reactivate our nation's economy.

4. To reiterate that only through respectful dialogue can we solve the internal and external problems which hinder the successful development of the Nicaraguan revolution.

Managua, 8 April 1981

OPPOSITION REAFFIRMS DESIRE FOR 'OPEN DIALOGUE'

PA090411 Paris AFP in Spanish 0325 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Managua, 8 Apr (AFP)--Five political opposition groups here today asked that "offensive language" not be used in the official media as a first step toward pursuing a national dialogue with the Sandinist government.

The request was made shortly after setting the next round of talks between the opposition parties and the ruling Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) for this Friday.

The Social Christian Party, the Social Democratic Party, the Democratic Conservative Party, and the Constitutionalist Liberal Movement are involved in the talks.

The opposition groups also asked that an open dialogue be held, that the talks be broadcast on television and that "an appropriate climate of harmony be created beforehand."

The parties feel that so far, the official media "have led people to believe that these groups are trying to join the FSLN."

MANAGUA MONITORS SOMOZISTS' CLANDESTINE BROADCASTS

PA100028 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] The clandestine radio of the [Somozist] Guard is already on the air. Deadly Zela Lacayo is already speaking on it. She used to speak on Radio X. She spoke against the people during the war of liberation. All the stale and deadly people who could be heard on Radio X, and on the domestic services are now in charge of the broadcasting of the genocidal guard's radio station, which has the nerve of calling itself Radio 15 de Septiembre.

In its broadcasts, this clandestine radio station insults our culture minister, Father Ernesto Cardenal, and other officials of the present government.

The radio station has promised to return to Somozists the property that was expropriated by the revolution. Such guts!

As everybody knows, this same radio station of the genocidal National Guard functioned for several months in Honduran territory. It was dismantled on that occasion. It is believed that the same persons who operated it then have reactivated it again, taking advantage of the aggressive environment that exists in that country against the Sandinist revolution.

As days go by, the aggression plans are taking a more concrete shape, as our leaders have been saying. Aggression is a fact. The clandestine radio of the guard is already on the air.

People like Gonzalo Evertz, Fermin Meneses, Nicolas (Ballo) Salinas plan to come afterwards. Let's get ready to welcome them as they deserve. With our finger on the trigger.

Let's listen to an excerpt of a recording of a broadcast by the guard's radio station: [recording indistinct]

Tegucigalpa Notes Station

PA100236 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] There is a clandestine radio station of the counterrevolution operating in Nicaraguan territory. The station, called Radio 15 de Septiembre, broadcasts at 0500, 1800 and 2200 hours, in the 49 and 60 meter bands.

At dawn today, on short wave, we were able to listen on the 49 and 60 meter bands to a clandestine radio station which according to the way it was identified, belongs to the Nicaraguan counterrevolution. They call the station Radio 15 de Septiembre. Code calls are made continuously. All the messages deal with an invasion on that territory. They say: This is Radio 15 de Septiembre speaking to you from somewhere in Nicaragua.

DIRECTORATE TO STRENGTHEN RADIO FREQUENCY CONTROLS

PA071639 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] The General Directorate of Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services, exercising the powers granted to it under decree No 499 of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, gives notice through its Directorate of Radioelectric Frequencies to all civilian, state, private and mixed bodies as well as to organizations in general and diplomatic missions, ham radio operators, commercial radio stations, television stations and autonomous agencies which have installed or are using radiocommunication stations of the following:

Users of radio frequencies who have not renewed their licenses will have their licenses cancelled, thereby leaving these frequencies available to other users.

The installation and operation of a radiocommunications station without the proper license constitutes a violation of article 6 of the law regulating the use of the radio frequencies and for this reason all stations not holding the respective license must stop transmissions.

Ham radio operators who have not renewed their call letters for the period 1980-1981 will have their licenses placed at the disposal of this directorate.

This measure is due to the fact that the radioelectric spectrum is a limited national resource that must be used rationally and equitably to meet economic, social, technical, educational, defense and security needs.

'MISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN' PROTESTED AT SELA MEETING

PA071357 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Text] Nora Astorga, deputy foreign relations minister, protested at the seventh SELA meeting, held in Caracas from 23 to 28 March, over the economic and military aggression against the Sandinist people's revolution.

Companera Astorga said that the misinformation campaign waged abroad is based on propaganda made by a few Nicaraguans who visit countries that are friendly to them and create a climate of destabilization for our process.

In view of this misinformation existing abroad, the Nicaraguan delegation proposed the creation of an international information center, and this proposal was supported by eight countries, including Panama, Mexico, Venezuela and Cuba. The purpose of creating this international Latin American information center is to fight information campaigns waged by transnational concerns against Latin American countries. We shall now hear the statement made by Companera Nora Astorga:

[Begin recording] [Words indistinct] We took advantage of the SELA meeting to protest the destabilization and misinformation campaign waged by U.S. imperialism against our country. We held two news conferences during which we gave information about these campaigns, the freezing of the $70 million loan and the suspension of the credit for the purchase of wheat, as well as the protest over the camps. [not further identified] [end recording]

JINOTEPE ANNOUNCES 22 APRIL MILITIA MOBILIZATION

PA082124 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Apr 81 p 9

[Excerpts] Jinotepe--All the people in Jinotepe are getting ready for the great mobilization of 22 April, when Battalion 80-13 will depart from this city.

Flor de Maria Monterrey, political secretary of the Departmental Leadership Committee [CDD] of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] in Carazo, has reported that a day of activities will be carried out, including rallies, popular meetings, presentations by the mobile movie theater in various neighborhoods and marches by the militiamen.

She added that the organized people and the Sandinist People's Militias will guarantee these activities with their participation in tasks of recruitment from house to house in order to integrate more companeros in the reserve battalion.

It Is Not Militarization

Companera Monterrey said: Let this be very clear: This is not a militarization of the country, as the reactionaries say. It is the spirit of Sandino which is present in the people who are getting ready to defend the fatherland.

Communique No 1

The CDD issued communique No 1 referring to the mobilization of Battalion 80-13 of Jinotepe and the farewell to Battalion 80-11 of Granada.

"The CDD carries out its duty of informing the people of Jinotepe that on 22 April, heroic Reserve Battalion 80-13--comprised of workers, youths, townspeople and humble people of the neighborhoods of El Cementerio, La Pila Grande, San Antonio, San Felipe and other sectors in this city--will mobilize for the defense of our fatherland and the revolution."

After reviewing the recent history of the revolution and its achievements, the CDD notes that "these conquests are irreversible and for this reason the people are on a struggle footing against the aggressions of imperialism which are aimed at halting our revolution."

Battalion 80-13 Reply to Interventionist Attempts

The document stresses that "the organization and mobilization of Battalion 80-13 is a specific reply to the antipopular plans that are being carried out by counterrevolutionary gangs inside and outside the country by constantly killing our militia brothers in the border areas.

POLICE DISLODGE GROUP OCCUPYING OCAL OFFICES

PA082108 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Interior Ministry communique issued in Managua 7 April, read by Guerrilla Commander Bene Vivas, deputy interior minister--live]

[Text] The Press Office of the Interior Ministry announces to our citizens that this afternoon, 7 April, Sandinist police dislodged a small group of people who had been illegally holding the Ocal, S.A. At a moment when foreign attacks increase and the people are engaged in the tasks of production and defense, systematically rejected all the efforts of the authorities to reach a solution through dialogue. In view of this situation, the authorities resorted to the police so they could enforce the law.

The intransigent attitude of the occupiers of the Ocal installations gave rise to small groups of provocateurs of Trotskiyite leanings and other elements who are trying to misguide and confuse our working class to promote disturbances in the area of the national stadium by gathering a small group of no more than 60 persons. They refused to heed to the calls of the Sandinist police, who were forced to disband them and take them to the Ayax Delgado police headquarters. Police authorities admonished them and released them.

Ocal manager Emilio Pereira--who, in an irresponsible attitude contributed to promoting unrest and obstructed the work of the policemen--was also arrested for being involved in the incidents and was subsequently released.

The cautious attitude of the members of the Sandinist police must be praised because, despite provocations by irresponsible individuals, they were able to solve the problem with maturity, thus preventing regretable incidents.

The Interior Ministry takes advantage of this opportunity to reiterate its intention to maintain revolutionary order and the citizens' peace and tranquillity and to reaffirm our willingness to watch over the legitimate interests of our working people involved in the tasks for our national reconstruction.

BRIEFS

GIFTS FROM SOVIET YOUTH--Young people of the Soviet Union have donated more than $700,000 worth of books, rulers, pencils and toys to Nicaraguan youth and children. A ceremony was held yesterday in Corinto at which the donation was officially delivered. The ceremony was attended by Companero Carlos Carrion, member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] National Secretariat; Fanor Herrera, 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement representative; Carlos Zamora, coordinator of the Sandinist Youth Executive Committee and secretary of the Chinandega FSLN Committee; Companero German Shlyapnikov, Soviet ambassador; Companero Dmitriy (Akhromin), secretary of the Leninist Komsomol Central Committee; Companero Aleksandr (Gratov) of the (?RSFSR) youth organizations committee, and others. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Apr 81 PA]

HAVANA COMMNETS ON U.S. SPACE SHUTTLE TROUBLES

FL091949 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] The rocket engines of the latest U.S. space contraption--the space shuttle Columbia--will be fired early tomorrow morning, 10 April, from Cape Canaveral, Flordia. We would like to read a commentary on this subject by Armando Morales, from our international news department:

The space shuttle Columbia, recently emerged from the hangars where it was assembled, owes its 9 years of anxiety-ridden development to Yankee stubborness in rescuing what they unscrupulously call "U.S. space supremacy." The truth is that since its beginning in 1972, the project has been courting disaster. It should have been completed in 1978 with a ship ready to be launched. It is already 3 years behind schedule, while costs have risen to $8.8 billion, some $3 billion over the original estimate.

However, what most worries the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administraion, NASA, is whether in the end the Columbia will be able to fulfill its 54-hour mission. Experts point to the unprecedented fact that the shuttle will be launched without first having been tested in unmanned flight. One observer notes that if that is the only worry, the launching itself could be NASA's biggest risk. Not even the most enthusiastic of the Yankee space shuttle's champions dare promise success although they have not stopped extolling the monster's huge commerical and military potential.

It is said that dreaming is free. But this dream called Columbia, which has proved very expensive indeed to the American taxpayers, has often turned nightmarish. While the contraption was being developed, valves exploded, fuel lines split, shoddy welding and defective bearings were discovered, engines exploded and five fires occurred. While the Columbia was being transported on a jumbo plane, 7,500 of the almost 31,500 insulating tiles on its surface were damaged. According to NASA, the loss of even a single one of these tiles on reentry would cause an irreversible catastrophe. Recently, a defect in the electrical system was detected and shortly before countdown, a leak in a valve was found.

Barring another postponement, astronauts John Young and Robert Crippen will have plenty of time from now until zero hour to ask themselves again the same question that many others have asked: What else will break down? What else will explode? What else will malfunction?

CASTRO ATTENDS RECEPTION FOR FISHERIES DELEGATES

FL091112 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Excerpt] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, last night attended a reception in honor of the participants in the third fisheries cooperation meeting of the nonaligned and other developing countries being held in Havana. Delegations of 40 countries and three international organizations are attending the meeting which is the first at the ministerial level.

NICARAGUAN ENVOY ON U.S. LOAN CANCELLATION

FL092028 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Interview by unidentified TV reporter with Nicaraguan ambassador to Cuba, Marcos Antonio Valle; date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Could you discuss the latest imperialist aggressions against Sandino's fatherland?

[Answer] Certainly. Our people have in recent days been the object of direct economic aggression by the Reagan administration. They have cancelled the loans which were being used in the economic reconstruction of our country and they say they are cancelling all future loans. This a direct aggression against our people because they (?are denying) the aid they owe us since they intervened in our country in 1855. Since 1855, the U.S. Government oppressed the Nicaraguan people through various lackey governments and today they are cancelling, they are (?dismissing) that debt.

[Question] What has been the reaction of the Nicaraguan people to these [words indistinct] aggressions?

[Answer] Our people's response has been the same as when we overthrew the Somozist dictatorship: total support for the vanguard, the Sandinist National Liberation Front, and our government junta of national reconstruction. At present, all our people are signing the proclamation of our fatherland's dignity and sovereignty, a proclamation which we will take to the United Natons, a proclamation which we will take to the meetings of the Nonaligned Countries Movement, the OAS and to all international forums where we will accuse the U.S. Government of a crime against a nation whose only sin has been to try to reconstruct, to try to feed its people.

[Question] Thank you for your words for Cuban television.

VICE PRESIDENT HOLDS TALKS WITH ECA DELEGATION

FL091120 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received the delegation of African government officials sponsored by the UN Economic Commission for Africa [ECA] that is visiting Cuba for an exchange of views. At the meeting, in which the delegation coordinator (Ahmed Hausande) and Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas participated, matters concerned with the delegation's visit were discussed. The purpose of the visit is to obtain a general view of the possibilities of trade with our country.

BRIEFS

VIETNAMESE DECORATIONS--The order of friendship which Vietnam's National Assembly awards to organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the Vietnamese people's struggles has been awarded to the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions (CTC). Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Huu Ngo presented the high decoration to CTC Secretary General Roberto Veiga, who said the Cuban labor movement appreciates the gesture as a high expression of the principles of proletarian internationalism. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Apr 81 FL] The University of Havana, the Jose Antonio Echeverria Polytechnical Institute and the Agricultural-Livestock Sciences Institute, also of Havana, have been presented the order of friendship awarded by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Huu Ngo presented the high award to the rectors of the schools. He explained that the friendship order was awarded in recognition of the schools' contribution to the development of Vietnamese students and for their role in the anti-Yankee struggle. [Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Apr 81 FL]

MPSP SUPPORT FOR BRAZIL--The Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] has issued a declaration in solidarity with the Brazilian people on the 17th anniversary today of the 1964 overthrow of the progressive government of Joao Goulart. The document states that during all these years the Brazilian people have lived under the scourge of repression and have witnessed the abolition of all freedoms. The fascist regime in Brazil opened the doors to the big monoplies which make the misery of the masses more acute. [Text] [Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Apr 81 FL]

BAHAMAS

PINDLING ADDRESSES SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE

FL091842 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Prime Minister Pindling addressed participants in the risk management conference held in San Francisco, California. Mike Smith reports:

[Begin recording] The prime minister told the participants that we feel that Bahamas is now in a strong position to commit itself to the redevelopment of the international insurance industry as there is both the scope and capacity for it. He emphasized that while commitment to the sector has never diminished, a new concentrated effort is being undertaken by his government to encourage the development and enhancement of this area of the economy.

The prime minister said his government's interest in the captive insurance business is to be seen in the light of this renewed effort to broaden our entire offshore financial sector. There is, said the prime minister, a natural connection between offshore insurance and offshore banking and the community of services which support them, and the Bahamas strong offshore banking community is itself a rationalization to encourage offshore insurance business. [end recording]

BRIEFS

WORLD BANK LOAN--The World Bank has announced that it has granted the Bahamas Government its second loan since becoming a member of the bank after independence. The loan, for 7 million dollars, is to be used for vocational and technical training. A third loan of 9 million dollars is under consideration. This one to be used in a 20 million dollar renewal project already announced by the government for town grants. The World Bank's financing includes a 3-year grace period and it's stretched over 15 years at 9.6 percent interest per annum. [Excerpt] [Nassau Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Apr 81 FL]

BARBADOS

MINISTER LIONEL CRAIG NAMED ACTING PRIME MINISTER

FL091415 Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 5 Apr 81 p 1

[Excerpts] Mr Lionel Craig, minister of housing and lands, is now the acting prime minister of Barbados.

Mr Craig was sworn in by Governor-General Sir Deighton Ward at Government House during a brief ceremony yesterday.

Also sworn in as acting minister without portfolio was Senator O'Brien Trotman who is parliamentary secretary in the prime minister's office. Both appointments will run until 14 April.

Mr Craig is acting for Prime Minister Mr Tom Adams who is presently in Madrid, Spain attending a board of governors meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank.

While there, he will be seeking finance for a major wave energy hydro-electric project which is to be carried out in Barbados as part of government's efforts to build up its energy resources.

Deputy Prime Minister Mr Bernard St John is also out of the island. He left the island on 26 March as head of a 24-member delegation to South Korea, Hong Kong and Singapore.

DOMINICA

UK GRANTS 206,000 EC DOLLARS IN ECONOMIC AID

FL081618 Bridgetown CANA in English 1617 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Summary] Roseau, Dominica, 7 Apr (CANA)--The British Government has approved a further grant of over 206,000 EC dollars (1 EC dollar; 37 cents US) for continued work on the new Canefield airstrip outside Roseau, it has been officially announced. The money is to be used to purchase additional land, for roadworks, earthwork and contingencies. Grants totalling (EC) 1,622,600 dollars have already been approved under the British Government's assistance. Canefield will be the second airstrip in Dominica. The island's main airport is at Melville Hall, 52 miles north of Roseau.

GRENADA

FINANCE MINISTER ON WORLD SUPPORT FOR AIRPORT PROJECT

FL100008 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] A number of countries and international organizations have already said that they will be attending the EEC cofinancing meeting in Brussels next week at which time discussions will be held on the assistance to Grenada for the international airport project. Speaking to RFG [Radio Free Grenada] news tonight, Finance Minister Brother Bernard Coard said that Algeria, OPEC--the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries--the Iraqi Fund, the World Bank, Libya and Sweden have already said that they will be attending the meeting. He said that other letters of (?consent) were also expected soon from other countries and organizations.

Commenting on a REUTERS-CANA news agency report today that some countries including, Belgium and the Netherlands, would be boycotting the meeting, Minister Coard said that there has been no indication of hostility from any of these governments and called the reports vulgar propaganda:

[Begin recording] They say that among the countries boycotting--boycotting, that is the word they use in their report--are Belgium and the Netherlands. But, we have in fact information both by phone and by telex from our ambassador in Brussels that I, as the head of the delegation of the Government of Grenada to this cofinancing conference, will be paying an official visit at the request of the Belgian Government to Belgium 1 day before the conference opens. The conference opens on Tuesday and on Monday I will be on an official visit to Belgium, and I will be meeting there with ministers in the government to discuss economic and technical assistance to Grenada. So whether or not Belgium attends the conference, and we have not got an official reply from them yet, the fact is that their attitude is certainly not one of boycott, because they have invited me to pay an official visit to their country to discuss economic and technical assistance. And undoubtedly the airport will be one of the (?topics) discussed. The Netherlands also has invited me to pay an official visit and that, too, is a country that we will be in fact having bilateral discussions with at the ministerial level. So, for a start, two of the countries they list here as boycotting, you know, are...it is in fact nothing but the most vulgar propaganda. [end recording]

Brother Coard said that the press report is a good example of how the imperialists use the media to create division and stall important conferences. Minister Coard said that already 80 countries at the level of council of ministers have passed resolutions supporting Grenada in the building of the airport and condemned the actions of the United States Government. This is almost half the number of states of the United Nations.

Brother Coard spoke of the resolutions passed by the Latin American Economic System and the African, Pacific and Caribbean states. On the ACP resolution, he said the fact that the grouping had passed such a strongly worded statement is an indication of the support Grenada has internationally:

[Begin recording] The resolution that they passed in support of Grenada is a very strong and powerful resolution, very powerful. And that is unusual because normally when so many countries, so much as 61 countries with totally varied political and ideological outlooks, get together to pass a resolution on any matter, it tends to be a watered-down, weak kind of resolution so that everybody can support it, everybody can go along with it. It tends to be so watered-down in order to get the broadest agreement that it almost says nothing. Therefore, the face that this resolution does say something, is very strong and very firm, indicates in fact just how strongly these countries feel about this matter and it indicates the quality of support which we are getting around the world. [end recording]

The finance minister went on to say that the results of the conference will not be known very soon as the countries and organizations have to study the documents that the Grenada delegation will be carrying to Brussels. And as the high-powered Grenada delegation prepares to leave for Brussels to seek assistance for the international airport, Brother Bernard Coard said that his only regret is that he will not be with his country for the historic rally this coming Sunday, but he said Grenadians must continue to show the world their solidarity, unity and determination in the building of the airport:

[Begin recording] We must not underestimate the importance it has on the world when people themselves get together and decide to show solidarity and to show unity, because we are getting this tremendous support from all these countries around the world, and all these organizations and all these governments. But it will encourage them enormously if they see that we are determined to helping ourselves; if they see that we are sufficiently determined to build our airport; that we come forward in fact in our [words indistinct] and we come forward [word indistinct] resolutions that have been passed this past week, past 10 days; and that we show here in Grenada, all of us, that we are united behind the PRG [People's Revolutionary Government] and the revolution in completing this tremendous project, the international airport; and that we are (?determined), our people, to (?remain) united and to build this country. [end recording]

ACP States Express Support

FL090026 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] Member countries of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States, the ACP, have expressed their full support and solidarity with the people of Grenada on the construction of the international airport. The ACP states total 61 countries and they comprise one third of the membership of the United Nations and half of the developing world.

In condemning the attempt to sabotage the cofinancing conference of the European Economic Community by the United States, the ACP unanimously passed the resolution. The resolution noted that the airport is crucial for stimulating economic activity through tourism and it will at the same time improve Grenada's infrastructure and [word indistinct] capacity. This, the resolution said, will lay the bases for future economic growth and development.

The ACP states said that they are convinced that the pressures being brought on by the United States constitute an interference in the internal affairs of Grenada and seek to bring into question the sovereignty of Grenada. The ACP resolution said that (?we are) concerned that these pressures by a nonmember state constitutes interference in the ACP-EEC relationship embodied in the Lome Two convention and that it seeks to influence this relationship in an adverse manner.

The resolution deplores the political and economic pressures being mounted against Grenada's economic development effort and declared its firm support for the economic development efforts in Grenada and the decision by this country to seek financial assistance from the EDF [expansion unknown] and other sources for the construction of the airport. It called on all members of the ACP to assist in attracting cofinancing for the airport project and for dynamic involvement of the community and its member states in the project.

NEW GROUP DISTRIBUTES ANTIGOVERNMENT PAMPHLET

FL081921 Bridgetown CANA in English 1907 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 8 Apr (CANA)--Another anti-government pamphlet has turned up on the streets here, warning of plans to "free" Grenada from the grips of the Maurice Bishop regime, which it said was "making a mess of" the country.

The two-page cyclostyled sheet is headlined "The Weapon" and attributed to the Grenada National Party for Liberation and Reconstruction, unknown here. It said the people of Grenada felt they had had enough of the pro-Cuban Bishop government, which came to power March 1979 in an armed revolution.

"We are not only interested in freeing Grenada, but rather our pledge is to see a free people in free Grenada and to this end we will continue to strive," the pamphlet said.

Referring to a recent strike by public servants here over increased pay, the pamphlet said if there's any such industrial action in future "all Grenadians will support the strike, including the people's revolutionary army and The Weapon."

The leaflet accused Cuban doctors working here under a bilateral agreement between St Georges and Havana of doing the leftist government's "dirty work."

It supported calls by Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams for promised general elections here and urged him to continue marshalling "the case of our suffering Grenadians because we really want elections to throw red Bishop out of office."

A similar leaflet appeared here some months ago.

NEW THRUST GIVEN TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

FL032226 Bridgetown CANA in English 2211 GMT 3 Apr 81

[Excerpts] St Georges, Grenada, 3 Apr (CANA)--The Grenada Government, having inherited what is said was a backward agricultural sector, is continuing to stimulate the industry through the utilization of the country's land resources and the skills of the population. Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has been quoted by the state-owned FREE WEST INDIAN newspaper as saying Grenada's new thrust in agriculture is part of an overall plan of economic development in the Spice Island and self-sufficiency in food.

The plan announced by Mr Bishop is to bring the bulk of idle lands back into production, give more incentives to farmers and at the same time get more young people involved in agriculture. He also noted that for the first time workers on state farms are to share in the agricutural profits. Government, he said, estimates that it will be possible to have 1/3 of the revenue made above operating cost, return to the workers.

"Realizing that rural development is a social as well as an economic process, the government is developing health, literacy, and other services specifically for state farm workers," he said. "Also, for the first time in Grenada's history, women agricultural workers will be receiving the same pay as men," the prime minister added.

Mr Bishop said that crop diversification is central to his government's strategy in the state sector, and particularly on the farms around the island, where pumpkin, eggplants, cabbage, carrots and other greens are being produced both for domestic consumption and export. He pointed to what he said was a major achievement in the development of Grenada's agro-industrial potential.

In the private agriculture sector, where 1/3 of all land between 100 acres and 200 acres are under-utilized, and 68 per cent of the 200-500 acre estate lands are idle, the government is encouraging private owners to bring their land under production.

According to Mr Bishop: "We are willing to provide as much assistance and incentive as possible. This we have been doing through the extension officer, through the provision of greater marketing facilities."

"We are hoping that more and more small farmers from the private sector will take advantage of the training possibilities, facilities, and the common pool of technical services which have been established since the revolution," he added.

The Ministry of Agriculture estimates that over 1/3 of Grenada's arable land is not under cultivation at all, while some 7 million dollars (1 EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) is spent annually on food imports.

"Following the principle that the full use of Grenada's resources requires the maximum involvement of her people, workers assemblies are being organized on the states to encourage ongoing worker participation in making decisions on things like production quotas and targets.

"Emulation awards, such as that received by worker of the year, Norris Edwards, for the invention of a beetle trap to rid cocoa farmers of this pest, are becoming part of the culture of farming in the state sector.

"Such creativity, stimulated by the revolution, saves the taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars, increases production, and provides a model for those in the private agriculture center," the prime minister noted.

To further its technical assistance and cooperation programs in agriculture, Grenada has sought membership in a number of regional organizations. These include Caribbean Food and Nutrition Council (CFNC), Caribbean CARICOM and the Organization of American States (OAS). It has also established bilateral arrangements with the Soviet Union, Venezuela, Iraq, and Syria. All these ties serve to increase its development capacity.

JAMAICA

FOREIGN MANAGEMENT OF SUGAR INDUSTRY PROPOSED

FL071914 Bridgetown CANA in English 1803 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 7 Apr (CANA)--Jamaica wants a review of proposals put forward by a British company for taking over the management of this country's sugar industry to ensure improved efficiency and productivity, Agriculture Minister Percival Broderick has said here. Dr Broderick said the London-based Tate and Lyle multi-national which made the proposals, had been told to send a team of experts here for talks on revising their recommendations "in a manner that would be acceptable both [to] the Jamaican sugar industry" and to the company.

Tate had offered to take over the running of the National Sugar Company (NSC), the state-owned firm which controls eight sugar factories here. Tate formerly owned the factories before they were taken over by the former Michael Manley government.

The contract, proposed by Tate, would last 7 years initially and the British firm would assume corporate responsibility for the NSC. It would also have the right, among other things, to choose the chief executive who would be accountable to the NSC board, and to design and implement a training and manpower development program for the NSC.

Tate said that for the revitalization of the sugar industry here to be effective the government would have to immediately revamp the operation of the sugar cooperatives that supply canes to three factories--Frome, Monymusk and Bernard Lodge--as well as restructure the NSC board.

When the government took over the sugar industry workers cooperatives were formed to run these large estates, but Tate said that they were inefficient and did not supply the factories with a sufficiently steady flow of fresh cane.

It recommended that the estates be passed to the NSC, which would be under Tate's management, in a sublease from the cooperatives "until a permanent solution was found." Rent from the sublease would go to the cooperatives members by way of dividends, Tate suggested.

For the NSC board it recommended the removal of all members, such as union representatives, who might not at all time be totally loyal to the objectives of the company.

Dr Broderick said the proposal of the dismantling of the sugar cooperatives and the exclusion of the unions from the NSC were "totally unacceptable to this government." "I wish to assure the nation that this government has no intention of agreeing to any proposals that would recolonize the sugar industry in Jamaica," he said in a statement.

Dr Broderick said that the administration recognized that the sugar industry was in a precarious position and that immediate, workable solutions had to be found."

The sugar industry last year lost 20 million dollars (1 JCA dollar; 56 cents US) and is heading for a similar deficit during this crop. The industry has been on the decline for several years and with the 1981 crop targeted at 230,000 tons of sugar--a figure which some officials believe will be difficult to realize. In the late 1960's Jamaica was producing upwards of 500,000 tons of sugar and up to 1978 was beyond the 300,000-ton mark.

BRIEFS

UN AID--Kingston, Jamaica, 3 Apr (CANA)--Jamaica is to received a 950,000 dollar (U.S.) grant from the United Nations interim fund for science and technology development to help in the development of its bauxite research capability. The agreement was signed here by Junior Energy Minister Basil Buck and the Jamaica-based representative of the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP), Yacoub Joury. The money is to complement 4 million dollars (U.S.) being spent by the government here to upgrade the Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBL). [Excerpt] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1740 GMT 3 Apr 81 FL]

TRADE DEFICIT--Kingston, Jamaica, 8 Apr (CANA)--Jamaica had a trade deficit of 337.8 million dollars (1 JCA dollar; 56 cents US) for the first 11 months of last year, according to figures published here. The islands statistical bulletin revealed that in the January to November period, imports stood at 1,787.4 million dollars while exports earned 1,449.6 million dollars. The trade deficit for the comparative period 1979 was 262.6 million dollars, with imports costing 1,562.6 million and exports earning 1,300 million dollars. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 2100 GMT 8 Apr 81 FL]

ST LUCIA

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER FORMS NEW POLITICAL PARTY

FL091326 Havana Voice of Cuba in English to North America and the Caribbean 0500 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] St Lucia's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, George Odlum, has announced the formation of a new political party. It comes at a time when tension in the country may spark early elections. The new political party is a break-away from the ruling Labor Party led by Prime Minister Allan Louisy. The Labor Party now has 12 seats against the five held by the opposition United Workers Party.

A constituent assembly will be held at the end of this month. In it, the name and symbol of the new party will be decided on. The organization already has support of five labor legislators. If they vote together with the opposition against the budget currently being discussed by Parliament, Prime Minister Louisy's faction would become a minority and early elections would have to be called.